

J-4842

F. 201 A
-G. 2000-5-38

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

CROSS-REFERENCE SLIP

Special Branch Registry OFFICE

FILE NO. D. 4842

SUBJECT:

Society for the Relief of Very Aged
Russian Emigrants

[illegible]

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S. B. REGISTRY

Wayside Station.

REPORT

Date February 11, 1938.

Subject Re attached petition from V. O. Popoff. (S.B. Registry No. 4842).

Made by D. S. 235 Suhoff.

Forwarded by

Reissold C.F.

Sir,

With reference to the attached petition from V. O. Popoff enquiries ascertained the following:-

Prior to the Sino Japanese Hostilities the above named Russian, aged 85, and his wife, aged 75, were occupying a small room on the 1st floor at Lane 50, House 18 Ward Road, opposite the Indian Police Quarters on Ward Road.

On August 17th 1937, the house-tenant Mr. Skropotoff and his wife evacuated from Wayside District to French Concession, but Popoff and his wife decided to remain in their house.

On 19-8-37 owing to the heavy bombardment in the district, Popoff, his wife together with one Karl Kavarik, Czechoslovakian and his wife residing in house 10 Lane 50 Ward Road removed for safety to the Police Quarters (Indian), having left part of their belongings in their house. On 21-8-37 Popoff being in the compound of the Police Quarters was wounded in his chin, apparently by a stray bullet, and on 24-8-37, they were evacuated by some volunteers, to French Concession, but had to leave their belongings in the Police Quarters under the protection of Japanese Military.

On 17-8-37 the Wayside Police Station evacuated and the Police were unaware of the above occurrences, but when the Wayside Station was re-opened on 27-8-37 there was no private property left in the Indian Police Quarters, same apparently being taken by Japanese Military, as there were no other people in this locality between 17-8-37 and 27-8-37.

When questioned by the undersigned at his present residence 326 Rue Cardinal Mercier, French Concession, Popoff agreed after an argument that he made a mistake

D. C. Prima

D. C.

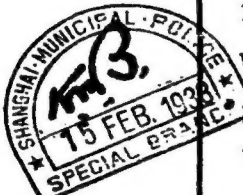
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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Wayside Station,
Date February 11, 19 38.

Subject

(2)

Made by

Forwarded by

regarding the month, alleging in his letter that the occurrence had taken place in September.

He appears to be too old to make a coherent statement, and when informed that it would be impossible to recover his property, stated that he had information to the effect that his belongings left at his former residence were safe, but as he and his wife were living on charity, they had no money to hire a car, and were too old to walk to Wayside District. He therefore asked the Police to assist him to get his property out of Wayside District. This appeared to be the chief reason for his petition to the Police. On 9-2-38, D. I. Bennett and the undersigned called for Mrs. Popoff at 326 Rue Cardinal Mercier and brought her to Wayside. She found all her property left at house 18 Lane 50 Ward Road intact and also found one overcoat and one carpet listed as stolen property in the room formerly occupied by Karl Koverik, House 10 Lane 50 Ward Road, which was apparently left there during the time of calamity.

Mrs. Popoff and all her belongings which she could find were taken to her home in French Concession. This was greatly appreciated by Mr. and Mrs. Popoff, who both realized that under the circumstances nothing more could be done in the matter by the Police.

Sen. Det. of/c.

D. D. O. " D " Division.

Yours obediently,

D. S. 235.

4842
Translation from Russian

PETITION

To the Commissioner,
Shanghai Municipal Police.

I resided together with my 75 years old wife in Wayside district in the house of Mr. and Mrs. KROPOTOFF, 50 Ward Road, Apartment 18. Although distant firing was heard and shells were bursting somewhere far away, it was quiet in our place and we lived in peace.

On September 15, some armed Japanese came carrying sand bags and erected barricades on the streets. Foreigners supposed that the Japanese came in order to maintain peace and protect the inhabitants. On September 16, however, many planes were circling over the Wayside district and on the morning of September 17, a bomb dropped from a plane exploded in front of House No. 50, making two holes in the road and damaging certain houses as well. About 20 houses in the vicinity were occupied by foreigners. After this explosion the latter became frightened and fled from the Wayside district leaving all their belongings. I and my wife, as well as Mr. and Mrs. KOVORJIK(?), Checoslovakiens, residing at House No. 14, remained in order to pack up our respective belongings and on the following morning to remove to the French Concession. In the evening of September 17, I went to a bakery, intending to telephone for a car to come on the following morning, but found that the telephone, as well as the electric light and water supplies had been cut off. Upon my return home some Japanese came to me and threatening me with their rifles, told me not to come out of the house. They also forbade us to leave the Wayside district. Thus, we were trapped and were unable to find a way out of the situation.



DBR. 20/1.
P.A. to D. C. (Sp. Br.)

On September 18, we saw from the veranda of our house that there were dead bodies of Chinese lying about on the street and that several houses on Ward Road were burning. Unnoticed by the Japanese, I slipped out of the house and went to House 14, occupied by the Czechoslovakian named KOVORJIK, in order to discuss with him what was to be done next. I found, however, that he had already disappeared with his belongings. On September 19, KOVORJIK accompanied by some Japanese came to me and suggested that I should remove to a house on the corner which was formerly occupied by Indian policemen. With the assistance of the Japanese we carried our things to that house and all four of us put up under the stairs on the ground floor. There were Japanese patrols around the house, and it seemed to us that we were protected. On September 20, our house was visited by some Japanese who treated us in a friendly manner.

However, shortly after 5 a.m. on September 21 when, being unaware of any danger, I was standing at the door of the house leading into the yard, a Japanese soldier hiding himself behind a corner, fired a shot at me from his rifle. I was hit in the face and fell down, my wound bleeding profusely. KOVORJIK and my wife dressed my wound, after which Mr. and Mrs. KOVORJIK disappeared, leaving their belongings with us. There was no one whom we could ask for assistance and for three days I was lying in a helpless condition, expecting my death.

On September 24, we were rescued by an Englishman and 2 Russian Volunteers. They were accompanied by Japanese. Out of pity to us they agreed to take me and my wife to the French Concession but refused to take

our belongings. With the consent of the Japanese we left our things in the house. My wife only took with her a small suitcase containing ^{holy} images and one change of underwear. I was taken to the Russian Orthodox Confraternity's Hospital and my wife to the Kings Daughters Society's Sanatorium situated beyond the town. Suffering a great deal I remained in the Hospital until November 7, but even now I am ill, the wounds on my face are healing very slowly, and I have to visit the hospital for dressing. The bullet hit me in the chin and injured the jaw. It was necessary to remove several teeth, so that I am now unable to take food properly. Thus, I am crippled, my face is disfigured and my belongings lost. I am a destitute now. All that I wear, has been borrowed from other people.

It is evident who is responsible for the attempt on my life. I made two statements to the Japanese Consul-General describing in very mild terms what had happened and applied for permission to visit the place in order to remove my property which had been left in charge of the Japanese. I also asked for monetary assistance, but have not received any reply. I do not intend to apply to the Consul any more, but as the crime was committed in the territory within the jurisdiction of the Shanghai Municipal Council, I decided to seek protection from them, asking that a representation be made to the party responsible in respect of the bodily harm caused to me, the medical expenses incurred and the property which was left with the Japanese in the House in Wayside district and which, according to information to hand, has been stolen by unknown persons.

Putting the above facts before you, I have the honour to ask that investigation^{s/} be instituted into this matter and for the recovery of our property enumerated in the attached list.

With regard to our property, the proprietress of House 18 where we formerly resided, who now lives at that address, visited me a few days ago and said that she had seen some of our property in the neighbouring houses. A questioning of ^{Mrs. KROPOTOFF,} our former landlady, will facilitate the enquiries regarding the missing property. For identification purposes, I ask to call me at 326 Rue Cardinal Mercier.

Shanghai, January 12, 1938,

Vladimir Osipovich Popoff, 85 years
of age.

List

of property of V.O.Popoff which was left in the Wayside district on September 24, after he had been wounded in the face by a Japanese.

2 men's suit (little worn)

1 striped jacket

1 p. old trousers

1 p. black boots

2 white summer suits

2 white single-breasted jackets

8 men's shirts

6p.drawers

1 mattress

2 blankets (thick)

1 white bed-cover

3 pillows

Ladies underwear, table and bed linen

4 ladies' dresses

3 " overcoats

1 small hand-made carpet

2 "Primus" lamps

4 sauce-pans

2 frying pans

18 plates

knives, forks and one basket containing foodstuffs.

V.O.Popoff

Ген. Гаврилу Наравнику Английский Пол-
ци.

Промение..

Проживая в Британской земле на Вейсайда по Вард.
Род. домъ 50, кв. 18, у сундуков - Крестовников. Этот дом
то въ дом происходила стрельба, рвались снаряды, но
у нас был тихо и протекала спокойная жизнь.
15^{го} Вечером явились вооруженные агенты с оружием -
они наполненными пистолет и по улицам устроили
заградитель. Европейцы предположили, что агенты движутся
для порядка и охраны торговых местечек. Но 16^{го} числа
напр Вейсайда домъ 50, взорвался от взрыва снаряда, и
1^{го} Вечером домъ 50, взорвался от взрыва снаряда -
домъ 50, взорвался на улице и от этого
дома, сгорев в дым и огонь и окрестности повреди-
ло некоторые дома. В этом районе, где мы жили
находились до 20^{ти} квартир занятые европейцами
и после случившегося, жители в страхе бро-
сали свои имущества бегут с Вейсайда, в
числе крестовников и их женов Крестовников. Но
с земли и квартирными №№ номера Техн Ковер-
зиков с земли, остались до следующего дня, что
бы уличить свои вещи и заставить с собой на стран-
ную жизнь. Пред вечером того же дня,

я пошел в Неканно, где и жиле тенефрон; это бы
к утру вызвать аномалию. Но тенефрон оказал-
ся закрытым, а тогда же электричество и вода.
Из возвращении дома явилась ко мне диница. урская
визитация, запретили входить на улицу, как и
запретили был впуск в Вейсанда. Там же обрассе-
ны оказались в здании и не могли прийти в
дверь из помещений. Вечером в Вейсанда затмевали
квартиры, было видно, что на улице валила туча-
ны убийств китицево. и на Вейс. Род, когда
квотирные дома. Мне удалось, не зайти от дини-
цы, пройти в 14 кварталу к Лору Коварскому,
что бы обсудить, что делать дальше, но он в ве-
щам куда то ушел. 14 Рентора в соответствии
ны диницы Коварского явился ко мне и предло-
жил в вещам перебраться в урскую домную
ранее находилась помещение диницы. С помощью
примедит диницы, переставили вещи и устро-
или все четверо в одну из комнат. И кругом
этот урская дома, контролируют диницы. И
нам коварски, что находилась из окрестностей. 20
мала к нам зашли диницы и израссеива
отнеслись.

Но вот 21^е Рентора, в 6^е часу утра,
я стал у себя в двери, выходящих во двор,
и ничего не подозревая, какой то солдат ан-
нея из загона, из визитации встретил
меня в лице, а устал обливается кровью, но

Ксворинникъ съ мнѣи зрѣноа сдѣлаа мнѣ переводящю
и мнѣ зѣноа Ксворинникъ съ мнѣи сдѣи, оставяа
свѣи веи съ мнѣи, куда то скрыи съ - Оураиитѣи
за помыслиа быа не къ мнѣи иа истеканъ крѣвѣи Зѣи
Валлаа оуидаа омерѣи.

2^{М^е} Пертиса, явился с наемом в мою 2^ю Англий-
скую и 2^ю русскую Колоннаты, с ними пришли
с Англией, Вула наше пожелание, что из ма-
лой согласен меня с тем же гостем на фран-
цузскую Колоннату, но взять наши вещи отказались
которые и были отвлечены с согласия Англии.

Меня взяла гелидангиза от Исконата и сильную
боягу. Меня судили в Болонницу Бураславна Бурас-
ства, а меня оказалась у добрых королевских го-
сударей за изгнание в Ванатирин. При великом изгнании
в Болонницу привели до 100 человек, но в Болонне и по
сей время, яны на миг медленно гелидангиза, яны
на изгнание. Яны иная в изгнание, изгнание
сестры, пришло изгнание несколько изгнание, и
иная возможность изгнание изгнание изгнание
иная. И такая изгнание осталась изгнание
иная изгнание изгнание, на изгнание изгнание
и все это на изгнание, изгнание изгнание на изгнание.

Висока е степента, в изкушени на опис живот
оревуване, а в самото изпитаване тук, под
интересу енергично Консулу да забележи о су-
ществено, ирелевант е да се извърши на Вейсайт

за имущество, оставленное под присмотром Инспектора
и хотя, конечно, помочь мне материально, но отбывать не
послужило и не намерено к Копееву обращаться, а
решил искать защиты, известия овертывать пред-
метами, у Шанхайской Муниципальной Администрации
предлагается приобрести к личной стороне по вопро-
сам, касающимся моего здоровья и в связи с этим, обязу-
юсь посылать расследовать и в отношении меня и заиму-
щество оставленного в квартире на Копеевском, у
Инспектора, по справкам не оказавшимся на помощь и
не исполнять моих поручений.

Заявляю об этом, что в настоящее время
просить Вашего расследования, по обстоятельствам
для приобретения расследования. и расследовать на
имущество, обозначенных в прилагаемых при-
ложенных документах.

Это же касается нашего имущества, на даче
у меня была, с Копеевского бывшая наша квартира
квар. 16, где она и в данное время находится, сообще-
ла, что она известна мне нашим вещам, видела
у проживающих по адресу: Офицерской бывшей на-
шей хозяйки Е. Кропоткиной, обремененной пропиской и
неграмотности вещей, и для приобретения от ак-
ции, прошу Вас сообщить мне, по адресу: Кордунант
Мерсе 326.

Е. Шанхай - 12-го Января 1938г.

Владимир Дмитриевич Толстой - 85 лет -

Самое.
Вещей: 15. 0. Понедельник, оставленных на
сейчас 14-е Января, всего разложено с
Андреем в луго.

Два мало изношенных мужских костюма
одна юбка с полками, двенадцатые
сухонные брюки и шерстяные ботинки.

Два латинских ботинка костюма и два ботинка
однобортных туфли.

Восемь разных мужских сорочек и 6-е кофты
одна майка, два теплых одеяла, одна
пояска, три подушки. Дамские, старинные и
новые ботинки.

Семь дамских платьев и три пальто.

Одну не большую кофту мужской работы.

Два перилла, семь костюмов, два скотчиды,
полтора дюжины тарелок, ножи, вилки и
корзина с продуктами.

15. 0. Понедельник -

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

C.S.6, Special Branch 4 Station

REPORT

Date November 8, 1937

Subject (in full) ATLASOFF, A.G. - Present address.

Made by _____ and _____ Forwarded by D.S.I. Medvedeff.

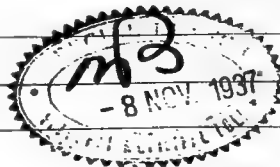
Alexandre Grigorievich ATLASOFF, Russian, age 48,
thief and shoplifter, C.R.O. F.781, who is mentioned in the
attached File. D. 4842, is at present residing at No. 5,
Yang Terrace.

Information Sheet No. 2311
Date 9/1/1937

N. Medvedeff
D. S. I.

D.C. (Special Branch).

DC (C)



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

Special Branch ~~Section~~ 4242

REPORT

Date July 13 19 37.

Subject (in full) V.O. Popoff, Chairman of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants warned to discontinue his begging activities in the Settlement.
Made by and Forwarded by C. D. I. Ross

In accordance with the instructions of the D.C. (Special Branch) of 8th July, 1937, V.O. Popoff, Chairman of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants, was interviewed at Headquarters on 13th July, 1937, and warned to discontinue forthwith all begging activities of his society in the International Settlement. He replied that he would comply with the wishes of the Police.

Popoff resides at House 18, Lane 50, Ward Road.

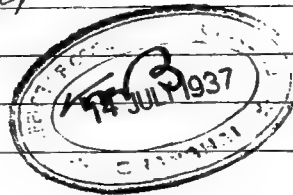
DBRm

C. D. I.

Deputy Commissioner in Charge.

DC (Div)

DC (G)



FILE

DBR 157

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

S2, Special Branch ~~S2000~~

REPORT

Date July 8 1937.

Subject (in full) Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants.

Made by & Forwarded by Supt. Tan Shao Liang

Dr. Hung Chi telephoned this morning stating that Commissioner Tsai has altered his original intention to forward a letter to the S.M.P. for investigation re the activities of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants. The instructions from the City Government were to take note of the activities if any in Chinese territory and nothing was mentioned to obtain cooperation from the S.M.P.

As to the local Tangpu, Mr. Chang Ung Chun states that at the last committee meeting of the local Tangpu it was decided to petition to the Central Tangpu of Nanking to reorganize all Russian societies in Shanghai.

Pending the reorganization Mr. Popoff was called to the Tangpu office a week ago (Mr. Chang did not give the exact date) and warned to cease the begging activities.

Tan Shao Liang
Superintendent.

D. C. (Special Branch)

Call him up & warn him

mb3
-8 JULY 1937

232.
8/7

Translation from **MUNICIPAL POLICE**

S. E. REGIST.

S. B. D. 4842

Shanghai, June 19, 1937.

1937-24 6 37

Concession Francaise
de Changhai

SERVICES DE POLICE

Political Section.

R E P O R T No.1889/SSubject: Summoning of General Gleboff, President of S.O.R.O.Reference: S.O.R.O.
Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants.

At 3 p.m. on June 17, 1937, General Gleboff, President of the Council of United Russian Organization (S.O.R.O.), 8 Avenue Dubail, having been summoned by us, presented himself at the Police Headquarters where he was received by the Assistant Director (Political Section and C.I.D.) and the Chief of the Political Section.

During the course of the interview General Gleboff was informed that his letter No.440 dated June 7, 1937, did not give a direct reply to the questions contained in the letter No.1661 dated May 27, 1937, of the Director of the Police, namely: exclusion from the S.O.R.O. of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants and stopping their activities in the French Concession.

After the above fact had been pointed out to him, General Gleboff admitted that he was wrong in having the Society among the organizations affiliated to the S.O.R.O. Further he stated that until he received the letter of the Director of the Police he had been ignorant of the suspicious character of the Society; that he had already taken the necessary steps in order to have the Society struck off the list of organizations affiliated to S.O.R.O.; that, finally, he was prepared to notify the public through the press of the fact of the exclusion of the Society from S.O.R.O. should the police wish him to do so.

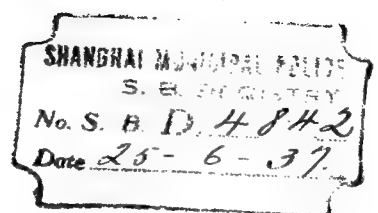
As regards the S.O.R.O.'s letter to the local press criticising the action of the Police, General Gleboff denied having ever written or seen such letter. He

*Very
M
2/6
C.P.
This together with
to letter referred
from Dr. Hong Chi
shall make it
eliminate of
Aged Society*

23 JUNE 1937
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL
POLICE
S. B.

that this was, probably, a provocation and requested to be given a copy of the letter in possession of the police in order that he might make his enquiries into this matter. In addition he said that he would immediately write an official letter to the Tangpu to the effect that S.O.R.O. never sent the letter of which he was blamed.

When leaving, General Gleboff stated that after the interview with representatives of the Police he completely changed his opinion of the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" and confirmed once more his absolute loyalty towards the French Authorities.



June 24th, 37.

Commandant Fabre:
Directeur des Services de Police ,
FRENCH CONCESSION.

Dear Commandant Fabre:

I regret delay in answering your letter No. 1737/A, dated May 31st, 1937, due to my requiring comment from the Special Branch in the matter.

Although it is without doubt a fact that the Society is not a genuine charitable organisation but merely a screen for the begging activities of a small group of individuals some of whom do not enjoy a very good reputation, I find there would be possible legal complications in the Settlement if I agreed to insert a notice in the Press warning the Public against the Society.

I should like to co-operate with you in the matter as suggested, but in view of advice from the Special Branch I feel I should not insert a notice in the Press.



- 2 -

I am still considering what action
I can take in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Ed) F. W. Gerrard.

Commissioner of Police.

IW/.

4842

24-6-37

NOVOSTI DNIA, June 24, 1937

ВОЗВРАЩЕНИЕ

А. Г. АТЛАСОВА.

В скором времени в Шан-
хай возвращается с юга
Китая А. Г. Атласов для
издания третьей иллюстри-
рованной серии «Травеллин-
г Адвертайзинг» на Д. Восто-
ке.

После издания книги А.
Г. Атласов выйдет в новое
путешествие для выполнения
своих целей.

RETURN OF A. G. ATLASOFF

A.G. Atlasoff will return to Shanghai from the South China shortly in order to publish the third issue of the " Travelling Advertising in the Far East".

Following the publication of his book A.G. Atlasoff will leave Shanghai on another trip in connection with his business.

SBH
attach to file of ant
DB 2076

A. Prokopenko
.....
D.S.I.

Ref 2416

81
246
11
5.11.37

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. *File No. D. 4842*
Date *22-6-37*
S.2, Special Branch Section,

REPORT

Date *June 22* 1937.

Subject Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants.

Made by and Forwarded by Supt. Tan Shao Liang

Mr. Chang Yen Chun (*張彥春*), Officer i/c Investigation Department of the local Tangpu, was communicated with on June 21 and requested that measures be taken, if possible, to check the activities of these undesirable Russians who have become a public nuisance, the most effective way being to bring pressure on General Gleboff to have the registration of Popoff's society with SORO cancelled. Mr. Chang stated he would refer this suggestion to a Committee meeting for decision.

In the course of my enquiries, I ascertained that the Shanghai City Government has also received numerous complaints concerning the undesirable begging activities of Popoff's society and had instructed the Police Bureau to make enquiries. Investigations were accordingly made and I ascertained that Dr. Hung Chi has attended to this matter and will write shortly to the S.M.P. suggesting that joint cooperative steps be taken to check this nuisance.

From information gathered by Dr. Hung, the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants commenced its activities in 1929, then being under the supervision of Mr. Ch. Metzler, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee. The begging nuisance was just as bad and the society functioned until 1933 when for some unknown reason it withdrew from the Russian Emigrants Committee and made several attempts to make the organization independent but without success, application for registration being turned down by the Chinese Authorities.

It is alleged from information received by Dr. Hung that from 1929 to 1933 no complaints were received against the society because Mr. Metzler was on friendly terms with certain Russian members of the French Police.

Not yet received.

*C.P.
Action Taken
as suggested by
report himself*



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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Subject (in full)

Made by

Forwarded by

The Russian Emigrants Committee and SORO are rival organizations, both being recognized by Nanking. Therefore after withdrawing from the Russian Emigrants Committee, Popoff's society had no alternative but to join SORO and thus cause political complications.

To be fair with either, Dr. Hung thinks that the begging practice must be stopped.

See attached translation
from Zarin of June 22.

D.H.S.

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Tau Shashan
Superintendent.

D. C. (Special Branch)

SHANGHAI ZARIA, June 22, 1937

Извѣщеніе СОРО.

Канцеляріей СОРО получено официальное уведомленіе от Французской полиціи, что Русской Общественной Организациі, под названіем: «Общество Помощи Пре-старѣлым Русским Эмигрантам», властями не разрѣшено функционировать на Французской Концессіи.

На основаніи такого распоря-

женія властей СОРО извѣстило на званную организацію, что не можетъ далѣе ихъ представлять передъ властями Французской концессіи и что всѣ удостовѣренія и свидѣтельства, кон до сего времени имъ были выданы, для Французской концессіи, считать не действительными.

NOTIFICATION ISSUED BY SORO.

SORO has received an official communication from the French Police to the effect that Russian public organization named the "Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants" is not permitted to function in the French Concession.

In view of the said communication. SORO has notified the organization concerned that SORO cannot any longer represent it before the authorities of the French Concession and that all documents and certificates issued by SORO to the "Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants" are not valid within the limits of the French Concession.

.....*A. Puskas*.....

D. S. I.

10/6 22/6

Date 16 JUNE 1937

(Special Branch) Office Notes

C.P.

I feel a notice in the Press from the police forces directly accusing the Society might lead to complications unwarranted by the importance of the affair.

Respectful Comrades might publish in the Gazette from time to time a list of recognised charitable organisations & a warning against those not named.

Date

(Special Branch) Office Notes

named.

If you wish I can approach the
Tang, for through SA as suggested in the
last paragraph.
Yes
?

Wm. Bourne
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(SPECIAL BRANCH)

De. 16 returned a document
H. L.
18/1

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 1, Special Branch *Station!*

REPORT

Date June 16, 1937

Subject..... Communication dated 31-5-37 from the French Police concerning the
"Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants".

Made by..... D.S.I. Prokofiev. Forwarded by..... *T. Boyne D.S.I.*

Facts outlined in the French Police report No 1802/S dated 12-5-37 on the subject of the "Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants" fully confirm the information on record concerning the activities of this Society (File D-4842 and F.2188), which may be briefly summarized as follows:-

1. The "Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants" is not a charitable organization as its name may suggest, but merely a screen for begging activities of a small group of individuals some of whom do not enjoy good reputation.

2. Sending collectors to various consulates, banks, offices etc., for the purpose of soliciting donations is the only form of activity in which the Society has been engaged ever since its inception.

3. No accounts have ever been published by the Society. Information in hand indicates that their collectors have the lion's share of the proceeds; that V. Popoff, Chairman of the Society, probably receives a certain fixed sum from the collectors in return for his permission to use the name of the Society; that only very small sums have been distributed from time to time among certain needy members whose number does not exceed 10.

4. So far three individuals with criminal records, including N. Stepanoff, the present secretary and chief collector of the Society, are known to have been acting as representatives or collectors of the Society.

Although the activities of Popoff and especially those of his enterprising collectors certainly savour of fraud, it would be extremely difficult to prove a case against them in court. Indeed, the Society is registered with the Council of United Russian Public Organization (SORO) which is an officially recognized

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public body. Collectors of the Society carry documents certified by SORO which prove their bona fides. It is very likely that in case of need Popoff and his associates will produce some sort of accounts the falsity of which it would be next to impossible to prove, and will also have several witnesses to testify that they have been regularly receiving support from the Society.

In March, 1935 when the doubtful activities of the Society in question came to the notice of the Municipal Police, it was deemed undesirable to prosecute them (vide endorsement of D.C. / Crime/ on the report dated 14-3-35). Popoff then was warned that the Municipal Police did not consider the existence of his Society desirable and that the activities of the Society should be discontinued in the Settlement. This warning has since been repeated on two occasions. However, information in hand indicates that collectors of the Society continued to visit offices etc. in the Settlement for the purpose of soliciting donations.

Interviewed in connection with this matter on June 14, 1937 Mr. Th. Gleboff, President of SORO, stated that upon receipt of a communication from the French Police recently to the effect that Popoff's Society was banned in the French Concession, he wrote to Popoff advising him to discontinue his activities in the Concession. He might do the same in respect of the International Settlement, should the Municipal Police put him in possession of information regarding the alleged unlawful activities of the Society. This was of a great importance to him, continued Mr. Gleboff, as according to his information, Popoff had taken legal advice and engaged the services of a certain foreign legal practitioner who agreed to take up this matter with the police free of charge solely for the purpose of embarrassing them. While this may or may not be true,

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Mr. Gleboff's general attitude towards this matter and, particularly, his complaint to the local Tangpu against the arbitrary action of the French Police in respect of Popoff's Society, indicates that he might have suggested such course of action to Popoff.

It would appear, therefore, that insertion of a notice in the press by the Municipal Police in order to warn the public against the activities of the "Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants", as suggested by the French Police, being undoubtedly a very effective means of frustrating these activities, is likely to arouse a protest on the part of Popoff's legal representative.

Mr. Ch. Metzler, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee, states that he frequently received telephone calls from various offices in the Settlement requesting information regarding the bona fides of various organizations and individuals, including collectors in the employ of Popoff's Society, soliciting donations. A few words regarding the true nature of this Society were invariably sufficient to have their collectors turned out for good. This aroused the wrath of Popoff who only a few days ago published in the "Novosti Dnia" a lengthy and very insolent letter accusing Mr. Metzler of malicious persecution of the Society. Mr. Metzler seems to be prepared to publish a notice in the press warning the public against the activities of certain Russian would-be charitable organizations and advising to verify the bona fides of various collectors by referring to his office. However, in order to protect himself from various accusations he would have to mention in such notice that it is published on the suggestion of the Police. This would also be an effective means of suppressing the activities of Popoff's Society.

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If the local Tangpu could be persuaded to give assistance in this matter, it would be very easy for them to bring pressure to bear on Mr. Gleboff to have the registration of Popoff's Society with SORO cancelled. This would certainly put an end to the begging activities of this group.

G. Prokofiev.

D. S. I.

D.C. (Special Branch)



SERVICES DE POLICE
DIRECTION

N°

1737/A

Changhai, le 31 Mai 1937.

Monsieur le Major F.W.GERRARD C.I.E.
Commissioner of Police

SHANGHAI.

Cher Major GERRARD,

Comme suite à ma lettre du 21 Mars 1935, j'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-joint copie du Rapport N°1802/S du 12 Mai 1937 sur la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés.

Par lettre en date du 24 Mai 1937, j'ai avisé Mr. POPOFF que sa demande avait encore été rejetée par le Consul Général de France.

Je pense qu'il serait utile que les deux polices fassent insérer un avis dans la presse pour mettre le public en garde contre les agissements de cette organisation.

Veillez agréer, Cher Major GERRARD, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués./.

Directeur des Services de Police.

Scsb.

In comment.

*2/4
3/6*



SERVICES DE POLICE

SERVICE POLITIQUE

Changhai, le 12 Mai 1937

RAPPORTObjet: Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés.

No. 1802/S

Réfer: Lettres de la Société N°25 et 30, datées respectivement du 22 et du 25 Avril 1937.
S.C.R.C.

Pour la troisième fois la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés" adresse une demande d'enregistrement aux Autorités Françaises. Rappelons les faits :

Une "Société de secours aux émigrés Russes Agés" avait été autorisée dans la Concession Française par lettre N° 1320/A du 23 Décembre 1932 du Directeur des Services de Police.

C.D.S.

I.G.E.

Cette autorisation fut retirée par lettre N°775/A en date du 13 Juillet 1933 du Directeur des Services de Police, à la suite d'une lettre du Consul de France à Canton et après qu'une enquête approfondie faite à Shanghai eut démontré que l'activité de la Société ne correspondait pas à celle d'une oeuvre d'intérêt public (1).

Au début de 1935, malgré cette interdiction, Mr. V.I. POPOFF, fondateur de la Société, faisait publier dans la presse locale plusieurs lettres ouvertes, signées en sa qualité de Président de la Société. Ses activités attirèrent aussitôt l'attention des Autorités Françaises qui firent paraître dans la presse locale, le 2 Février 1935, une note annonçant que la "Société de secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés" était interdite dans la Concession Française.

(1) Emploi, par la Société, des voleurs professionnels comme quêteurs, absence absolue de contrôle des sommes recueillies, mauvaise conduite de certains membres, etc..

On n'entendit plus parler de cette Société jusqu'au début de l'été 1936, quand elle fit sa réapparition sous le nom de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés et aux Indigents incapables de Travail Physique". Le 16 Septembre, cette Société adressa à la Police Française une demande d'autorisation. Cette demande fut refusée par lettre du Directeur des Services de Police N°2061/A du 5 Novembre 1936.

Les organisateurs de la Société crurent alors pouvoir éviter l'enregistrement dans la Concession Française en s'adressant directement aux Autorités Chinoises. Une demande d'enregistrement fut adressée par la Société, par l'intermédiaire du "S.O.R.O." (Conseil de l'Organisation Russe Unifiée - N°8, Avenue Dubail) au Tangpu Local.

Notons tout de suite que les démarches de la Société faites pour être enregistrées officiellement ne doivent pas être expliquées par son désir d'être en règle avec les Autorités : ce que les dirigeants de la Société veulent surtout, c'est être en possession d'un document officiel, permettant à leurs queteurs (ahroffs) de faciliter leurs visites dans les banques, bureaux, maisons de commerce, etc. pour demander des souscriptions au profit d'une organisation "officiellement reconnue".

Les 17 et 18 Avril 1937, la Société faisait paraître dans les journaux Russes "Novosti Dnia" et "Shanghai Zaria" des notes, disant que la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés" était enregistrée depuis le 10 Avril 1937, auprès du Tangpu local, conformément aux lois de la République Chinoise relatives à l'enregistrement des Sociétés (1) (Lettre du Tangpu local N°5145, caractère "Uhs" du 10 Avril 1937). Les affirmations qui, ainsi que l'on verra plus loin, sont fausses.

Avril 1937).

Le 18 Avril, une réunion générale des membres de la Société eut lieu dans les locaux du S.O.R.O., N°8, Avenue Dubail (voir Annexe I, copie de notre rapport N°1761/S du 20 Avril 1937). Au cours de cette réunion, Mr. POPOFF, Président, informa les assistants de ce que "l'existence de leur Société" venait d'être approuvée par le Tangpu local sur recommandation spéciale du "S.O.R.O.".

Le 22 Avril 1937, Mr. N. STEPANOFF, signant pour le président, adressait au Service Politique une demande d'ouverture, dans la Concession Française, d'un asile pour les indigents. Le 25 Avril, Mr. POPOFF adressait une demande semblable au Directeur des Services de Police (1). Il nous semble qu'il y ait lieu de refuser ces demandes :

1/ Les organisateurs de la Société sont nettement de mauvaise foi. En effet, ils ne demandent même pas l'enregistrement de la Société auprès des Autorités Françaises. Ils indiquent tout simplement que la Société est enregistrée auprès des Autorités chinoises et auprès du S.O.R.O. et demandent l'autorisation d'installer, dans la Concession Française, un "asile pour les indigents".

2/ Les affirmations de la Société, d'après lesquelles la Société est enregistrée auprès du Tangpu local, sont fausses. Ci-joint (Annexe IV) photographie de la lettre du Comité Exécutif du Tangpu local N°5145 du 10 Avril 1937(2), adressée à Mr. POPOFF, président de la Société, et sa traduction. Il n'y est pas question de l'enregistrement de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés" auprès du Tang-

(1) Voir annexes II et III

(2) Notons que les dirigeants de la Société présentent cette lettre comme le "certificat d'enregistrement".

pu. Au contraire, il est bien stipulé dans la lettre qu'en ce qui concerne les organisations russes, une instruction du Département Central de l'Entraînement Populaire interdit au Tangpu de Shanghai de tolérer l'organisation d'Associations, autres que le "S.O.R.O." et le "Comité des Emigrés Russes". Les organisateurs de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés" sont invités à s'affilier à l'une de ces deux Associations.

Or, tous les documents officiels de la Société - lettres, feuilles de souscriptions, etc... portent en Anglais et en Chinois l'entête suivante :

"Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants"

"Registered at the Shanghai Branch of the Kuomintang

"Party, N°5145 on this 10th day of April 1937".

Il est évident que cette entête trompe la bonne foi des donateurs et facilite le travail des "quêteurs" de la Société.

3/ Le "quêteur" principal de la Société est un nommé Nicolas STEPANOFF, qui est, en même temps, bien qu'il ne soit âgé de 43 ans, membre du Comité et secrétaire de la Société. Cet individu est bien connu des polices de Shanghai comme voleur professionnel : le 19 Décembre 1928, il fut condamné par la Cour Provisoire du Settlement, à 1 an et 4 mois de prison pour vol dans les magasins et le 5 Septembre 1930, par la même Cour, à 1 an et 6 mois de prison pour tentative de vol.

Le système employé par les quêteurs de la Société est assez simple : porteurs des certificats délivrés par la Société, ils se présentent dans les bureaux, les maisons de commerce, les magasins, etc... et sollicitent des souscriptions au profit de cette "œuvre de bienfaisance".

Plus les pièces présentées par les "quêteurs" ont l'apparence de pièces officielles, plus elles ont de valeur. C'est ainsi que, muni du certificat de la Société, disant qu'elle est enregistrée au Tangpu local, STEPANOFF a réussi à recueillir - et nous n'avons vu qu'une seule feuille de souscriptions - 435 dollars et cela seulement dans une dizaine de jours (entre le 23 Avril et le 4 Mai 1937)!!

Quant à l'emploi de ces sommes, laissons parler l'un des quêteurs lui-même : il s'agit du nommé GORCHKOFF, Théodore, qui a travaillé comme "Shroff" de la Société fin 1936 - début 1937. Dans une déclaration écrite, faite le 8 Avril 1937, au Comité des Emigrés" (Voir en Annexe V, photographie et traduction de ce document), il dit notamment : "Du 23 Novembre 1936 au 1er Janvier 1937, j'ai recueilli une somme de 150 dollars environ. Durant le mois de Janvier 1937, j'ai reçu 110 ou 120 dollars et durant le mois de Février, 90 dollars. STEPANOFF m'a laissé 50% des "recettes", pour mes dépenses personnelles, il a gardé le reste pour lui. STEPANOFF lui-même a recueilli, pendant le mois de Décembre, 600 dollars. STEPANOFF m'avait recommandé de ne pas quêter dans les bureaux où l'on demande un compte-rendu des sommes recueillies. Les souches des "carnets ont été détruits par STEPANOFF. Mr. POPOFF, président de la Société ignorait tout de ce que nous faisions. En voyant tout cela, j'ai décidé de m'adresser au Comité des Emigrés".

GORCHKOFF ajoute, dans sa déclaration, que STEPANOFF remettait mensuellement à POPOFF une petite somme. Il donnerait, également, de temps en temps, 30 ou 40 cents à 4 ou 5 vieillards - DOUTOFF, DIDNIKOFF, PONOMAGUINE, MOURA-

CHOFF, etc... Pour la Noël, ces vieillards auraient reçu de 5 à 7 dollars chacun.

4/ Fin Avril, STEPANOFF se présenta à l'Union Immobilière, dont le compradore chinois, Mr. LIOU LOUEN, versait régulièrement, tous les deux mois, une certaine somme, à la caisse de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés". STEPANOFF était porteur, cette fois-ci, de l'original de la lettre du Tangpu local N°5145 du 10 Avril 1937, qu'il montra à Mr. LIOU comme une preuve de l'enregistrement de la Société auprès des Autorités Chinoises. Ayant pris connaissance de la lettre, Mr. LIOU fit remarquer à STEPANOFF que son texte ne correspondait pas avec les documents rédigés en Anglais attestant que la Société est enregistrée auprès du Tangpu. STEPANOFF protesta et déclara qu'il reviendrait plus tard. Une enquête fut ouverte par la Sûreté (DéTECTIVE STACHKO) et le Gardien Russe de la Banque fut avisé de téléphoner immédiatement à la Police au cas où les représentants de la Société reviendraient à la Banque. STEPANOFF se présenta à nouveau à l'Union Immobilière le 4 Mai. La Police fut avisée et le DéTECTIVE TOPORKOFF l'amena au Poste Central. STEPANOFF, qui était porteur de feuilles de souscriptions, de l'original de la lettre du Tangpu et d'une lettre en Anglais, demandant des souscriptions ne fut pas inquiété. Les documents furent conservés par nous, pour examen.

Le 5 Mai, POPOFF adressait une lettre à la Police Française déclarant que cette affaire n'était qu'un malentendu, que la Société n'avait jamais fait de quêtes dans la Concession Française et que STEPANOFF se serait tout simplement trompé, croyant que la Banque se trouve dans le

Settlement(x).

Le 11 Mai, POPOFF et STEPANOFF se présentèrent au Service Politique et nous remirent une lettre avec deux annexes : A/ Lettre N°7021, Caractère "Che" du 10 Mai 1937 adressée* à la Police Française par le Tangpu local et B/ Certificat (en Anglais) N°355 du 10 Mai 1937, délivré par S.O.R.O. et attestant que la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés est bien enregistrée au S.O.R.O. et auprès des Autorités Chinoises comme "organisation de bienfaisance". (Voir Annexe VI, traduction et copies de ces documents).

La lettre du Tangpu nous transmet le texte de la requête, à lui adressée par S.O.R.O. relativement à l'enregistrement de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés. Cette requête, conçue dans des termes très "énergiques", articule en particulier : "la Police de la Concession Française, sans faire la moindre enquête, s'est emparée de l'autorisation délivrée par votre Bureau (1). Notre Association (S.O.R.O.) ne pouvant tolérer cette insulte envers un groupement légal et cet irrespect des Autorités Administratives, nous sollicitons votre protection, afin de recouvrer l'autorisation de la Société et pour que, pour la bonne marche des choses, les ordres soient respectés".

Etant donné que SORO est enregistré auprès des Autorités Chinoises et que la Société fait partie de cette organisation, le Tangpu prie la Police Française d'examiner sa demande "avec sollicitude et d'y donner une suite favorable."

(1) Il s'agit de la lettre du Tangpu N°5145 du 10 Avril 1937 dont il est question plus haut.
(x) voir Annexe (VIII).

La lettre du Tangpu n'apporte rien de nouveau. Elle répète tout simplement ce que nous avons dit plus haut : la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés n'est pas enregistrée auprès des Autorités Chinoises. Elle fait tout simplement, comme quelques autres organisations russes (1), partie du S.O.R.O. qui, lui, est enregistré auprès du Tangpu.

5/ Selon la liste présentée par POPOFF à la Police, le nombre des membres de la Société serait de 30. Presque la moitié de ces personnes jouissent d'une mauvaise réputation :

POPOFF	organisateur de la Société est, malgré son âge avancé (84) un intrigant, mal vu dans la colonie Russe, alcoolique notoire. Il vit uniquement à l'aide de l'argent qui lui est versé par STEPANOFF.
STEPANOFF	Secrétaire, déjà cité, un voleur professionnel, condamné le 19 Décembre 1928, par la Cour provisoire du Settlement, à 1 an et 4 mois de prison pour vol dans les magasins et le 5 Septembre 1930, par la même Cour, à 1 an et 6 mois de prison pour tentative de vol.
DIDENKO	Ivrogne invétéré. A été ramassé deux fois dans la rue par la Police Française.
DOUTOFF JOUK MAGUILINKOFF	} Expulsés de la Maison de Charité Russe pour ivresse.
RIGHTEN PAVLOFF LAPCHINE NOVIKOFF	} Connus à la Sûreté comme ivrognes invétérés.

(1) La plupart des organisations faisant partie au SORO n'existent, il est vrai, que sur le papier.

Ajoutons que DAVIDENKO, porté sur la liste, a quitté Shanghai le 1er Mai, à destination de Pékin et que IKONNIKOFF est décédé vers le 20 Avril 1937.

L'enquête menée a démontré encore une fois, que jusqu'à présent, seuls STEPANOFF et POPOFF profitent des quêtes au profit de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés". Les autres "membres" ne touchent qu'occasionnellement des petites sommes de 40 ou 50 cents. Disons, en outre, que la plupart des personnes mentionnées sur la liste de POPOFF sont ou hébergées dans des asiles ou reçoivent une assistance des Sociétés françaises et russes de bienfaisance.

Ce qui nous étonne un peu dans cette affaire, c'est le rôle du Général GLEBOFF, Président du SORO. Sachant parfaitement que la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés a été interdite dans la Concession Française pour toute une série d'irrégularités, il a quand même consenti à l'enregistrer au S.O.R.O. Plus encore, c'est par son intermédiaire que la Société s'est adressée au Tangpu, Il a autorisé dans les locaux de l'organisation, dont il est président, et qui se trouve dans la Concession Française, la réunion des membres d'une société, interdite par les Autorités et a même consenti à être élu membre honoraire de cette

Société. Il semble ignorer, enfin que la Société (qui fait partie du SORO, soulignons-le) prétendant être enregistré auprès des Autorités Chinoises, ne l'est pas, et qu'elle se sert de son enregistrement fictif uniquement dans des buts non avouables.

Il y a là de la part du Général GLEBOFF un manque de loyauté que souligne bien cette phrase extraite de sa lettre au Tangpu :

"La Police de la Concession Française, sans faire la moindre enquête s'est emparée de l'autorisation délivrée par votre Bureau. Notre Association ne pouvant tolérer cette insulte envers un groupement légal et cet irrespect des autorités administratives, nous sollicitons votre bienveillante protection afin de recouvrer l'autorisation de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés", et pour que, pour la bonne marche des choses, les ordres soient respectés."

Dans ces conditions, il ne paraît ni possible d'autoriser la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés ni de laisser sans suite la lettre insolente à notre égard du Général GLEBOFF aux autorités chinoises.

Amplifications :

Nos. 1- ✓

2-

3-

4- ✓

Annexe I

SERVICES DE POLICE

SERVICE POLITIQUE

Changhai, le 20 Avril 1937

RAPPORT

Objet : Réunion des membres de la Société de Secours aux
Emigrés russes âgés qui s'est tenue le 18 Avril
dans les locaux du S.O.R.O., N°8, Avenue Dubail.

No. 1761/S

Réfer : Shanghai Zaria N°3740 du 20 Avril 1937.
Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés.
S.O.R.O.

Le "Shanghai Zaria" a publié le 20 Avril, la note dont traduction ci-jointe, disant que le dimanche, 18 Avril, a eu lieu dans les locaux du S.O.R.O. (Conseil de l'Organisation Russe Unifiée), la réunion générale des membres de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés. Cette réunion a été convoquée à la suite de l'enregistrement de cette organisation au bureau de Shanghai du Parti Kuomintang. Une trentaine de membres de la Société et un représentant du Tangpu local y assistaient. Il fut procédé à l'élection des membres du nouveau Comité d'Administration. Le Général GLEBOFF, président du S.O.R.O. fut élu membre honoraire de la Société.

C.D.S.

D.A./V.R.

A noter que la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés a été autorisée à installer son siège sur la Concession Française par lettre du Directeur des Services de Police N°1320/A en date du 23 Décembre 1932. Cette autorisation lui fut retirée, par lettre du Directeur des Services de Police, N°775/A en date du 19 Juillet 1933, en raison de ce que les activités de la Société ne correspondaient pas à celles d'une œuvre d'intérêt public. Il est à remarquer également que le Général GLEBOFF, qui autorisa

la réunion des membres de la Société dans les locaux du S.O.R.O., ne pouvait pas ignorer l'interdiction imposée au fonctionnement de la dite organisation dans la Concession Française, car un avis officiel d'interdiction a été publié, le 2 Février 1935, dans tous les journaux russes de la Place, à la demande de la Direction des Services de Police.

TRADUCTION

"A la réunion des membres de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes âgés".

Dimanche, le 18 Avril, dans les locaux du "S.O.R.O. (Conseil de l'Organisation russe unifiée) a eu lieu la réunion générale des membres de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés. Trente membres actifs de la Société et un représentant du Tangpu Local y assistaient.

V.S.POPOFF, président de la Société a fait connaître que l'existence de cette organisation venait d'être approuvée par le bureau de Shanghai du Parti Kuomintang, à la suite de la demande et de la recommandation spéciale présentée à ce sujet par le SORO.

Etant donné qu'un certain nombre des membres de la Société sont indigents, le Comité de cette organisation a décidé d'installer un asile qui sera ouvert après les fêtes de Pâques.

M.M. V.O.POPOFF, N.P.STEPANOFF, A.L.MOURACHEFF et AFANSSIEFF furent élus membres du Conseil d'Administration.

M.M. A. STRELIKOFF, FOKINE et JOUK furent élus membre du Comité de contrôle.

M. ARBOUSOFF remercia, au nom des membres de la Société de Secours des Emigrés russes âgés, M.M. POPOFF et STEPANOFF pour le grand et sérieux travail accompli pour le bien de cette organisation. Il remercia également le représentant du Tangpu local et souhaita à la Société un avenir plein de succès. La réunion générale des membres de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés décida en outre de prier le général GLEBOFF, d'accepter le titre de membre honoraire de la Société pour l'aide qu'il a apportée à l'enregistrement de cette organisation.

Annexe II

SOCIÉTÉ DE SECOURS AUX ÉMIGRÉS RUSSES AGÉS.

Enregistrée auprès du Bureau de Shanghai du Parti Kuomintang,
sous le N°5145 en date du 10 avril 1937.

No. 25

22 Avril 1937

Shanghai
163 Muirhead Road.

Service Politique
de la Concession Française.

Messieurs,

La Société de Secours aux Émigrés Russes Agés, enregistrée auprès du bureau local du Parti Kuomintang, sous le N°5145 et auprès du S.O.R.O. (Conseil de l'Organisation Russe Unifiée) a l'intention d'installer, dans la concession française, dans la région de la rue Tenant de la Tour, un asile pour les membres indigents de la société.

Nous avons l'honneur de vous demander, en conséquence, de nous indiquer les démarches à faire pour obtenir l'autorisation des autorités de la concession française pour l'ouverture de l'asile en question.

Signé : pour le président de la
Société

H. STEPANOFF.

S O C I E T Y

For the Relief of very aged Emigrants.

-:-:-:-:-

N° 30

25 Avril 1937

163 Muirhead Road.

Commandant Fabre
Directeur des Services de Police
de la Concession Française
à Changhaï.

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous communiquer que notre "Société de Secours des Très Agés Emigrés Russes" est maintenant enregistrée au Département local de la Partie du Kuomintang, ordre No.5145. Etant aussi enregistrée au Conseil Uni des Organisations Russes à Changhaï, notre Société voudrait bien ouvrir un internat et une salle à manger pour ses membres indigents.

Nous avons l'honneur de vous prier bien respectueusement de nous permettre d'ouvrir cette institution Route Tenant de la Tour ou ses environs.

Nous vous serons bien reconnaissants si vous veuillez nous indiquer tous les règlements pour ouvrir une telle institution de bienfaisance.

Avec nos remerciements nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, l'expression de nos sentiments respectueux.

Cachet de la Société.

Le Président

Signé : Sopoff. V.

SERVICE POLITIQUE	
Enregistré le	26.4.37
Sous No.	16018
Transmis à	
Pour	

Annexe IV

Comité Exécutif du Tangpu local

N°5145 Caractère "Che".

à POPOFF

Référ : Demande d'enregistrement de la Société de Secours
aux émigrés russes âgés.

Ayant pris connaissance de votre demande et de ses annexes, nous vous informons qu'en ce qui concerne les organisations des émigrés russes, une instruction du Département Central de l'Entraînement Populaire nous interdit de tolérer l'organisation d'associations autres que le "Conseil de l'organisation Russe Unifiée à Shanghai" (1) et le "Comité des émigrés russes" (2), officiellement reconnus. Ces deux associations sont entièrement formées par différents groupements d'émigrés russes. Nous vous prions donc d'opter pour l'une d'elles à laquelle vous pourrez vous affilier.

26ème Année de la République Chinoise,
le 10 de la 4ème lune.

Membres du Comité Permanent:

MM. PAN KUNG CHAN

TAO PAO CHUAN

TUNG JIN PAI.

(1) SORO - Général GLOBOFF

(2) M. METZLER.

Traduction de l'Enveloppe.

POPOFF

163 Muirhead Road.

Tangpu local.

中國國民黨上海特別市執行委員會批 登號 545

呈 爲 批 乞 保 夫
具 會 意 一 決 倫 要 由

呈件均悉 查俄僑固龍之組
織 前 准
中央及東北訓練部函知限令
俄僑公共聯合會及俄僑委員會
會務因條件備案外不得再行設
立該兩團體完全由俄僑老個國
僑組設而成仰逕向上述兩團體
中擇一加入此請 應毋庸議此
批 俾 存

中 華 民



9 月 十 日

常 務 委 員

茂海珍 163 號

包保夫

中國國民黨上海特別市黨部 緘



Service Politique

No. _____

Changhai, le 24 Avril 1937.TRADUCTIONTRANSLATION
FILE

Nature du document: Lettre en russe.

Provenance: Theodore N. GORCHKOFF, N°676, Avenue Jeffre, Chambre N°8,
Tel : 75196.

Numéro: sans

Date: 8 Avril 1937.

Destination: Comité des Emigrés Russes (Mr. METZLER).

Observations:

Nom du traducteur: G. BYKHOVSKY.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que quelque temps après mon arrivée à Shanghai, étant sans travail, j'ai accepté la proposition de N.N.STEPANOFF, de travailler en qualité de shroff (quêteur) de l'Association des Emigrés russes à Shanghai.

Du 23 Novembre 1936 au 1er Janvier 1937, j'ai recueilli une somme de 150 dollars environ. Durant le mois de Janvier 1937, j'ai reçu 110 ou 120 dollars et durant le mois de février 90 dollars. STEPANOFF m'a laissé 50% des recettes, pour mes dépenses personnelles et a gardé le restant pour lui. STEPANOFF lui-même a recueilli 600 dollars, pendant le mois de décembre. STEPANOFF m'avait recommandé de ne pas quêter dans les bureaux où l'on demande des comptes-rendus de l'emploi des sommes recueillies. Les souches des carnets ont été détruites par STEPANOFF. M. POPOFF, président ignorait tout de ce que nous faisons.

En voyant tout cela, j'ai décidé de m'adresser au comité des émigrés russes à Shanghai.

Je crois que sur les sommes recueillies, STEPANOFF remet mensuellement à POPOFF une petite somme pour payer le loyer de la

maison qu'il occupait et ses autres dépenses. Il donnait également, de temps en temps, 30 ou 40 cents aux autres vieillards : DOUTOFF, DIDNIKOFF, PORTNIAGINE et MOURACHOFF. Pour le Noël, ces vieillards ont reçu de 5 à 7 dollars chacun.

Ces derniers temps, MOURACHOFF ne recevant plus rien refusa de signer les demandes de secours.

Signé : GORCHKOFF.

Service Politique

No. _____

Changhai, le 11 Mai 1937

TRADUCTION

Nature du document: Lettre en russe

Provenance: Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés.

Numéro 33

Date: 11 Mai 1937

Destination: Police Française

Observations:

Nom du traducteur: G. MELIANOFF

Etant donné l'imprécision de certaines expressions contenues dans la lettre du Tangpu, se trouvant actuellement en votre possession, et en complément de ma demande d'ouverture d'un asile pour 10 vieillards, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir une nouvelle lettre du Tangpu, N°7021, ainsi que le Certificat N°355, délivré par le "Conseil de l'Organisation Russe Unifiée", attestant que la Société dont je suis le Président est enregistrée auprès des organes compétents.

Je vous prie de nous rendre ces documents après en avoir pris connaissance et de répondre à notre demande.

Signé : POPOFF

Président.

Service Politique

No. _____

Changhai, le 10 Mai 1937

TRADUCTION

Nature du document: Lettre en caractères chinois.

Provenance: Bureau du Tangpu local du Plus Grand Shanghai.

Número: 7021 "Caractère Che"

Date:

Destination: Direction des Services de Police de la C.F.

Observations:

Nom du traducteur:

Shanghai, le 10 Mai 1937.

Le Bureau du Tangpu local du Plus Grand Shanghai
à la Direction des Services de Police de la Concession
Française de Shanghai.

Nous avons l'honneur de vous informer que le Conseil de
l'Organisation Russe Unifiée (Soro) à Shanghai nous a adressé une
demande ainsi libellée :

"Votre Bureau a autorisé la "Société de secours aux émigrés
russes âgés" à s'affilier légalement à notre association; ledite
société est donc enregistrée.

Il y a actuellement de mauvaises langues qui, gardant l'ano-
nymat, accusent cette société d'illégalité. Or, la Police de la
Concession Française, sans faire la moindre enquête s'est emparée
de l'autorisation délivrée par votre Bureau. Notre Association ne
peuvent tolérer cette insulte envers un groupement légal et cet
irrespect des autorités administratives, nous sollicitons votre

.....

bienveillante protection afin de recouvrer l'autorisation de la "Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés", et pour que, pour la bonne marche des choses, les ordres soient respectés".

Le Conseil de l'Organisation Russe Unifiée à Shanghai est un organe légal; il a été enregistré au Département Central de l'Entraînement Populaire; la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes Agés fait vraiment partie de ce conseil et son affiliation a été autorisée par notre bureau; il n'y a pas eu usage de faux.

Nous vous prions d'examiner cette demande avec sollicitude et d'y donner une suite favorable.

Cachets: PAN KUNG CHAN

TAO PAO CHUAN

TUNG JIN PAI

THE COUNCIL OF THE UNITED RUSSIAN PUBLIC ORGANIZATION OF SHANGHAI
8 AVENUE DUBAIL - TELEPHONE: 82678

Shanghai, May 10th 1937

C E R T I F I C A T E.

This certifies that according to the records kept in the Offices of the Council of the United Russian Public Organisation of Shanghai (S.O.R.O.), that the Russian Emigrants Organisation known under the name " SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF TO THE AGED RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS IN SHANGHAI ", duly registered with this Council at present time is also registered by Chinese Authority as charitable institution.

The present certificate is issued in accordance with Art. 13 of the Regulations of the Council of the United Russian Public Organisation of Shanghai, duly registered at the Bureau of Social Affairs, City Government of Greater Shanghai, on January 10th, 1933.

Signé : GLEBOFF

C h a i r m a n.

Service Politique

No. _____

Changhai, le _____ 193__

TRADUCTION

Nature du document: Lettre en russe

Provenance: Mr. POPOFF, président de la Société de Secours aux
Emigrés Russes Agés.

Numéro: 32

Date: 27 Avril 1937.

Destination: Police Française

Observations:

Nom du traducteur: BYKHOVSKY.

Association des émigrés russes âgés à Shanghai

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre la liste des membres de l'Association des émigrés russes âgés à Shanghai et de faire savoir que la question d'ouverture d'un asile pour dix vieillards a été définitivement réglée. Plusieurs personnes de nationalités différentes demeurent sur le Settlement sont prêtes à nous accorder leur aide. Notre association ne voulant pas déranger les résidents de la Concession Française, désire cependant, installer son asile sur cette concession où demeurent la plupart des réfugiés russes. J'ajoute que l'existence de notre association faisant partie du SORO, est sanctionnée par le comité central exécutif du Parti Kuomintang.

.....

J'ai l'honneur également de vous faire savoir qu'il existe sur la concession française, une société de secours aux vieillards (6 membres) organisée par AMANATSKY, lequel a été poursuivi à la cour pour détournement de fonds. Cette société est dirigée actuellement par DOMOGIROFF, à qui j'ai proposé que son groupe fasse à l'avenir parti de notre association.

signé: POPOFF.

Liste des membres de l'Association des émigrés russes âgés à S'hai.

<u>Noms.</u>	<u>Adresses.</u>
<u>Membres honoraires.</u>	
Archimandride MAKALI	Eglises russes.
Général GLEBOFF	SORO
Mme. La Baronne GUNE	
Mr. OLSEN.	
<u>Membres actifs.</u>	
POPOFF V.	163, Murthust Road.
STEPANOFF N.	684, Avenue Joffre.
APHANASSIEFF. G.	1232, Rue Lafayette.
DOUTOFF I.	324, Rue Tenant de la Tour.
DIDENKO F.	-do -
STRELNIKOFF R.	318, Rue Bourgeat.
JOUK V.	142, Rue Rémi.
MOGILNIKOFF G.	145, Rue Lafayette.
ARBOUSOFF N.	633, Avenue Joffre
FOKIN V.	-do-
CHERBAKOFF I.	553, Avenue du Roi Albert.
JURIEFF B.	115, Avenue Joffre.
LEMECHKO S.	398, Rue T. de la Tour.
CHESTOVSKY K.	Route Vallon.
OSTEN SAKEN V.	290, Rue Délastré.
DAVIDENKO F.	290, Rue Délastré.
CHARMAI F.	-do-
NOVIKOFF	11, Rue G. Khan.
TSVIEKOTEVITCH S.	588, Rue du Roi Albert.
ZAHAROFF A.	-do-
KROUCHLOFF I.	18, Route Vallon.
OUFINTSEFF K.	...
PAVLOFF Y.	...
POPOFF A.	...

RIGHTEN V.

588, Avenue du Roi Albert.

GORODIATZKY I.

-do-

POPOFF I.

501, Route Vallon.

ABATOURTSEFF D.

962, Avenue Joffre.

IKONIKOFF I.

Route Vallon.

LAPSHIN O.

684, Avenue Joffre.

SERVICES DE POLICE

Service Politique

Annexe VIII

P. 577

No. 832/SF.6

Changhai, le 7 Mai 1937

TRADUCTION

Nature du document: Lettre en russe

Provenance: Mr. STEPANOFF, résident de l'Association des Réfugiés Russes Agés, N°163, Quirhead Road.

Numéro: 32

Date: 5 Mai 1937

Destination: Police Française (Mr. EMELIANOFF)

Observations:

Nom du traducteur: G. EMELIANOFF

Mr. STEPANOFF, membre de l'Association, nous a rendu compte le 4 Mai, qu'il a été invité à se présenter à la Police Française pour, paraît-il, avoir quêté, sans autorisation, dans la Concession Française. J'ai l'honneur de vous informer qu'aucune quête n'est organisée par nous dans la Concession Française. Il s'agit d'une erreur, Mr. STEPANOFF croyant que la Banque (1) se trouve sur le Settlement. Nous vous prions donc de ne pas considérer l'action de Mr. STEPANOFF comme non exécution des ordres de la Police Française. Nous viendrons à la Police, le 8 courant, pour régler cette affaire désagréable. Nous nous demandons d'avance des excuses.

(1) Il s'agit de la Banque de l'Union Immobilière, N°1, Rue Montauban.
Cf. le Rapport de la Sûreté (Déflective Auxiliaire STACHKO - du 1er Mai 1937).

SERVICE POLITIQUE	
Enregistré le	7 MAY 1937
Sous No.	16163
Transmis à	
Pour	

FRENCH POLICE HQS.

Shanghai, May 31, 1937.

No. 1737/A.

Major F.W. GERARD, C.I.E.
Commissioner of Police,
SHANGHAI.

Dear Major GERARD,

Further to my letter of March 21, 1935,
I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a report
No. 1802/S dated May 12, 1937 regarding the Society for
the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants.

In a letter dated May 24, 1937, I informed
Mr. POPOFF that his request had again been rejected by
the French Consul-General.

I think it would be advisable for the
two Police Forces to have a notice inserted in the
press in order to warn the public against the activities
of this organisation.

Yours, etc.

L. FABRE,
Chief of Police.

SUBJECT: Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants.
REFERENCE: Letters Nos. 25 and 30 from the Society dated April 22 and 25, 1937 respectively.
SORO.

For the third time the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" is making a request for registration from the French Authorities. Let us recall the facts:

The functioning in the French Concession of a "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" was authorised by letter No. 1320/A of December 23, 1932 over the signature of the Chief of Police.

This authorisation was withdrawn by letter No. 775/A dated July 13, 1933, signed by the Chief of Police, following the receipt of a letter from the French Consul at Canton and after a thorough investigation made in Shanghai had shown that the activities of the Society did not correspond with those of an organisation of public interest. (Employ, by the Society, of professional thieves as shroffs, absolute absence of control over the sums collected, bad conduct of certain members, etc.....).

At the beginning of 1935, in spite of this prohibition, Mr. V.I. POPOFF, founder of the Society, had published in the local press several open letters signed by him in his capacity as President of the Society. His activities also drew the attention of the French Authorities, who published in the local press on February 2, 1935, an announcement stating that the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" was banned in the French Concession.

No more was heard of this Society until the beginning of 1936 summer, when it made its reappearance under the name of the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants and Indigents Incapable of Physical Work." On September 16, this Society addressed a letter to the French Police requesting authorisation to operate in the Concession. This request was refused by the Chief of Police in his letter No.

2061/A dated November 5, 1936

The organisers of the Society then thought that they would be able to avoid registering in the French Concession by writing direct to the Chinese Authorities. A request for registration was made by the Society through the medium of SORO (Council of Unified Russian Organisations - 8 Avenue Dubail) from the local Tangpu.

It is to be noted, nevertheless, that the requests of the Society to be officially registered can not be explained by its desire to be in accord with the Authorities: what is required by the leaders of the Society above anything else is the possession of an official document permitting their shroffs or collectors to visit banks, offices, trading houses, etc. so that they can request subscriptions for an "officially recognised" organisation.

On April 17 and 18, 1937, the Society published in the Russian newspapers "Novosti Dnia" and "Shanghai Zaria" notices stating that "the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" had been registered since April 10, 1937 with the local Tangpu, in accordance with the laws of the Chinese Republic relating to the Registration of Societies (Letter from the Local Tangpu No. 5145, Character "Che" of April 10, 1937) (Statements which, as one will see later on, are false).

On April 18, a general meeting of members of the Society was held in the headquarters of SORO, 8 Avenue Dubail (See Appendix I, Copy of our report 1761/S of April 20, 1937). During the course of this meeting, Mr. POPOFF, President, informed those present that the "existence of their Society" had just been approved by the local Tangpu on the special recommendation of SORO.

On April 22, 1937 Mr. N. STEPANOFF, on behalf of the President, addressed a request to the Political Branch for the opening of a home for indigents. Mr. POPOFF, on April 25, sent a similar request to the Chief of Police (See Appendices II and III). It appears to us that there were

grounds for refusing these requests:

1) The organisers of this Society are obviously of bad faith. Actually, they do not even request registration of the Society with the French Authorities. They simply indicate that it is registered with the Chinese Authorities and with SORO, and request permission to install a "home for indigents" in the French Concession.

2) The statements of the Society according to which the said Society is registered with the local Tangpu, are false. Attached is a photograph of the letter from the Executive Committee of the local Tangpu, No. 5145 dated April 10, 1937, (Appendix IV) (Note that the leaders of the Society present this letter as the "registration certificate."), addressed to POPOFF, President of the Society and its translation. It is not a matter of registering the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" with the local Tangpu. On the contrary, it is stipulated in the letter, insofar as Russian organisations are concerned, that the Shanghai Tangpu is forbidden by the Central Department of Popular Instruction to tolerate the organisation of Associations other than SORO and the Russian Emigrants' Committee. The organisers of the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" are invited to affiliate themselves to one or other of the Associations.

Now, all the official documents of the Society, letters, subscription sheets, etc...bear in English and Chinese the following heading:

"Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants."
"Registered at the Shanghai Branch of the Kuomintang
Party, No. 5145 on this 10th. day of April, 1937."

It is evident that this heading deceives the good faith of subscribers and facilitates the work of the Society's shroffs.

3) The principal shroff of the Society is one Nicolas STEPANOFF, who is, although but 43 years of age, a member of the Committee and secretary of the Society. He is well known to the Police Forces in Shanghai as a professional

thief: he was sentenced by the Provisional Court on 19.12.28 to 16 months imprisonment for shoplifting and to 18 months by the same court on 5.9.30 for attempted larceny.

The system employed by the Society's shroffs is simple enough: carrying certificates issued by the Society they visit offices, shops, etc...and solicit subscriptions on behalf of this "Charitable work." Although the documents presented by the shroffs have the appearance of being official documents, they are only of value to the collectors. It is thus, that bearing a certificate from the Society stating that it is registered with the local Tangpu, STEPANOFF has succeeded in collecting - and we have only seen one subscription list - 435 dollars, and that in about only 10 days (between April 23 and May 4, 1937).

^{As}
As to what use these sums are put, let one of the shroffs speak for himself: this is one GORCHKOFF Theodore, who worked for the Society as a shroff from the latter part of 1936 until the beginning of 1937. In a written statement made on April 8, 1937 to the the Emigrants' Committee (See Appendix V - photograph and translation of this document), he states: "From November 23, 1936 until January 1, 1937 I collected a sum of about \$150. During January, 1937 I received \$110 or \$120 and during February \$90. Stepanoff allowed me 50% of the receipts for my personal expenses, and kept the remainder for himself. During December Stepanoff collected \$600. Stepanoff advised me not to visit offices where receipts were requested for sums subscribed, or where accounts were requested. The ticket stubs have been destroyed by Stepanoff. Popoff, President of the Society, was not aware of what we were doing. In view of the foregoing, I decided to approach the Emigrants' Committee."

GORCHKOFF adds in his statement, that Stepanoff gave only a small sum to POPOFF each month. From time to time, he also gave 30 or 40 cents to 4 or 5 old men - DOUTOFF, DIDNIKOFF, PORTNIAGUINE, MOURACHOFF....etc. For Christmas these old men received from \$5 to \$7 each.

4) Towards the end of April, STEPANOFF visited the Union Mobiliere, whose Chinese compradore Mr. LIOU LOUEN, bi-monthly subscribes a certain sum to the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants." STEPANOFF, on this particular occasion was carrying the original of the letter of the local Tangpu - No. 5145 of April 10, 1937 - which he showed to Mr. LIOU as proof that the Society was registered with the Chinese Authorities. Having read the letter, Mr. LIOU remarked to STEPANOFF that its text did not correspond with the documents printed in English stating that the Society was registered with the Tangpu. STEPANOFF protested and declared that he would return later. Enquiries were made by the C.I.D. (Detective STACHKO) and the private Russian Watchman at the Bank was informed to telephone the Police immediately should any of the Society's representatives return. STEPANOFF again visited the bank on May 4. The Police were advised and Detective TOPORKOFF brought him to Central Station. STEPANOFF, who was carrying a number of subscription sheets, the original of the letter from the Tangpu and a letter in English requesting subscriptions, was not worried. The documents were retained by us for purposes of examination.

On May 5, POPOFF sent a letter to the French Police declaring that the above matter was a mistake, that the Society had never made collections in the French Concession and that STEPANOFF had simply made a mistake, believing that the bank was located in the Settlement. (See Appendix VIII)

On May 11, POPOFF and STEPANOFF came to the Political Section and handed us a letter with two enclosures: a) Letter No. 7021, Character "Che" of May 10, 1937 addressed to the French Police by the local Tangpu and b) Certificate (in English) No. 355 of May 10, 1937 issued by the SORO stating that the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants was registered with SORO and with the Chinese Authorities as a "charitable organisation." (See Appendix VI, translation and copies of these documents).

The Letter from the Tangpu sent to us gives the text of the request addressed to the Tangpu by SORO relative to the registration of Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants. This request, written in very strong terms, particularly makes mention of: "the French Police, without making the least enquiry, has absolutely ignored the authorisation issued by your Bureau (This really concerns the Tangpu's letter No. 5145 of 10.4.37, which is mentioned above). Our Association (SORO) cannot tolerate an insult directed against a lawful organisation and the disrespect shown to the Administrative Authorities. We therefore solicit your protection in order to have the authorisation renewed for the operating of the Society, and so that, for the good order of affairs, orders ^{must} be respected."

Bearing in mind that SORO is registered with the Chinese Authorities and that the Society is affiliated to SORO, the Tangpu request the French Police to examine its request "with care and to give it favourable attention."

The Tangpu's letter has brought nothing new to light. It simply repeats what we have stated above: the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants is not registered with the Chinese Authorities. Like many other Russian organisations, it is affiliated to SORO, which is registered with the Tangpu. (It is true that the majority of organisations affiliated to SORO only exist on paper).

5) According to the list handed to the Police by POPOFF, the number of members of the Society is about 30. Almost half of these people enjoy bad reputations:

POPOFF Organiser of the Society, in spite of his advanced years (84), is an intriguer, unfavourably regarded in the Russian colony, and a notorious drunkard. He lives solely on the money given him by STEPANOFF.

STEPANOFF Already mentioned. A professional thief, sentenced on 19.12.1928 by the Provisional Court in the Settlement to 16 months imprisonment, and on 5.9.1930 by the same Court to 18 months for attempted larceny.

DIDENKO Inveterate drunkard. Has been picked up off
 the streets twice by the French Police.

DOUTOFF)
JOUK)
MAGUILINKOFF) Expelled from the Russian Charity home for
 drunkenness.

RICHTEN)
PAVLOFF)
LAPCHINE)
NOVIKOFF) Known to the C.I.D. as inveterate drunkards.

Let us add that DAVIDENKO , who appears on the list left Shanghai on May 1 for Peiping and that IKONNIKOFF died on April 20, 1937.

The investigations made have shown up to the present that only STEPANOFF and POPOFF profited by the collections of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants. The other members occasionally received small sums of 40 or 50 cents. It should also be stated that the majority of those mentioned on POPOFF'S list or either looked after in homes or receive assistance from French and Russian charitable organisations.

The role played by General GLEBOFF, President of SORO, in this affair, has astonished us a little. Knowing full well that the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants was banned in the French Concession for a series of irregularities, he even consented to have the Society registered with SORO. Further, it was through his efforts that the Society wrote to the Tangpu. He has authorised, in the headquarters of SORO, of which he is the President, and which is located in the French Concession, a meeting of members of a society which is forbidden by the Authorities and has even consented to be elected an honorary member of this Society. He does not seem to know that the Society claims registration with the Chinese Authorities, but is not registered, and that it uses its fictitious registration solely for ~~the~~ non-commendable objects.

Thus can be seen on the part of General GLEBOFF a lack of loyalty which brings out that part of the letter from the Tangpu with clarity (See extract on page 6).

Under the circumstances outlined above, it neither appears possible to authorize the functioning of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants nor to allow without action the insolent letter regarding us sent to the Chinese Authorities by General GLEBOFF.

APPENDIX II

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF AGED RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS

Registered with the Shanghai Office of the Kuomintang Party
under the No. 5145 dated April 10, 1937.

No. 25.

April 22, 1937.

163 Muirhead Road,
Shanghai.

Political Branch of the French Police.

Gentlemen,

The Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants,
registered with the local office of the Kuomintang under the
number 5145 and with SOBO, intends to instal in the vicinity
of Route Tenant de la Tour, a Home for indigent members of the
Society.

We therefore have the honour to request you to
inform us as to what steps must be taken in order to obtain
the authorisation of the French Co accession Authorities to
open the Home in question.

Signed. for the President.

H. STEPANOFF.

TRANSLATION

AT THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF AGED RUSSIAN
EMIGRANTS.

A general Meeting of the members of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants was held on April 18 in the SORO offices. 30 regular members of the Society and a representative of the local Kuomintang headquarters were present.

Mr. V.O. POPOFF, Chairman of the Society, informed those present that following an application made through the medium of SORO and upon the latter's recommendation, the Society had been approved by the local Tangpu.

In view of the presence of a certain number of needy persons among the members of the Society it was decided to open a shelter which would be inaugurated after the Easter holidays.

The following members were elected to serve on the Society's Committee:- Messrs. V.O. POPOFF, N.N. STEPANOFF, A.I. MURACHEFF and AFANASIEFF.

Elected to serve on the Finance Committee:- A. STEINIKOFF, FOKIN and JOOCK.

On behalf of the Society Mr. ARBUSOFF, a member, thanked POPOFF and STEPANOFF for the extensive work carried out by them for the benefit of the Society and expressed his wishes of further prosperity and success. also thanked the Tangpu representative who was present at the meeting.

In recognition of the assistance rendered by Gen. Th. I. GLEBOFF, chairman of SORO, in the matter of registering the Society with the Tangpu, it was decided to ask him to become
honorary
a/member of the Society.

TRANSLATION OF FRENCH POLICE REPORT 1761/S dated 20.4.37.

SUBJECT: Meeting of members of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants held on April 18 in the premises of SORO, 8 Avenue Dubail.

The April 20th. edition of the Shanghai Zaria published a notification, translation of which is attached, stating that on Sunday April 18, a general meeting of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants took place in the premises of SORO. This meeting was called following the registration of this organisation with the Shanghai office of the Kuomintang Party. 30 members of the Society and one member of the Tangpu were present, at the meeting which was preceded by the election of a new Administrative Committee. General GLEBOFF, President of SORO, was elected an honorary member of the Society.

It is to be noted that the Society was authorised to instal its offices in the French Concession by the Chief of Police under letter 1320/A dated 13.12.32. This authorisation was withdrawn on 19.7.33 under letter 775/A, because the Society's activities did not come under the heading of a charitable work. It is to be remarked also that General GLEBOFF, who allowed the general meeting to be held in the SORO premises, must realise that the Society has been forbidden to function in the French Concession, for a notice of official banning was published in all local Russian newspapers on February 2, 1935 at the request of the Chief of Police.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF AGED RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS

))))(((

No. 30

April 25, 1937.

163 Muirhead Road.

Commander FABRE,
Chief of Police,
French Concession.

Sir,

We have the honour to inform you that our Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants is now registered with the local Tangpu, order No. 5145. Being also registered with SORO, our Society desires to open a shelter and a dining room for our needy members.

We have the honour to respectfully request your permission to open this institution in the neighbourhood of Route Tenant de la Tour.

We will be very grateful if you will indicate as to what rules we must comply with in order to open this charitable home.

With thanks, yours, etc.

President.

V. POPOFF.

APPENDIX IV

Executive Committee of the Local
TANGPU - No. 5145, Character "Che."

to POPOFF

Reference: Request for Registration of the Society for
the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants.

Having noted your request and the appendices
attached, we have to inform you that insofar as Russian
Emigrant Organisations are concerned, we have received
instructions not to tolerate the organisation of assoc-
iations other than SORO and the Russian Emigrants Committee,
which are officially recognised. These two associations
are formed by ~~two~~ different groups of Russian emigrants.
We therefore ask you to choose one of ~~these~~ associations
to which you should affiliate yourselves.

April 10, 1937

Members of Standing Committee.

MR. PAN KUNG CHAN
TAO PAO CHUAN
TUNG JIN PAI

APPENDIX V

TRANSLATION OF A STATEMENT MADE BY THEODORE N. GORCHKOFF,
RUSSIAN, 676 Avenue Joffre, Room No. 8.

I have the honour to bring to your notice that some time after my arrival in Shanghai, I was unemployed, but was eventually offered a job by one N.N. STEPANOFF as a shroff for the Aged Russian Emigrants' Associations.

I accepted this offer and from November 23, 1936 until January 1, 1937 I collected \$150. In January - \$110 - \$120, and in February \$90. Of this money Stepanoff gave me 50% for my personal expenses and retained the remainder for himself. His own collections during December amounted to \$600. Stepanoff does not visit offices where he is requested to give an account of the monies collected. Receipt books used for collections were personally ^{destroyed} by Stepanoff and were not delivered to POPOFF.

Realising that it was all wrong, I decided to report the matter to the Emigrants' Committee. As far as I know, from the monies collected Stepanoff pays \$23 as rent for Popoff's house, and also gives him a small sum for living expenses. From the remainder he pays some 30 or 40 cents occasionally to other old men: DOUTOFF, DIDNIKOFF, PORTNIAGINE and MOURACHOFF. For Christmas these old men received from \$5 to \$7 each.

Recently MOURACHOFF, receiving nothing, refused to sign any further appeals for help.

Signed: GORCHKOFF.

APPENDIX VI

Letter from POPOFF to the French Police dated May 11, 1937

Certain expressions contained in the Tangu's letter, now in your possession, being deemed to be inaccurate, and further to my request for the opening of a shelter for ten old men, I send you herewith a new letter from the Tangu, No. 7021, as well as Certificate 355, issued by SORO, stating that the Society of which I am President, is registered with the competent organs.

I ask you to return these documents as ~~yx~~ soon as you have taken note of their contents, and to reply to our request.

Signed: POPOFF.

10.5.37

Letter 7021 dated ~~7~~ from the Tangu to the French Police.

We have the honour to inform you that SORO in Shanghai has sent us a letter couched in the following terms:

"Your Bureau has authorised the "Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants" to affiliate itself to our Association: the said society was therefore registered.

There are now reports and bad rumours which state that this society is functioning ~~x~~ illegally. Now, the French Police, without making the least enquiry, has absolutely ignored the authorisation of your Bureau. Our Association cannot tolerate an insult directed against a lawful organisation and the disrespect shown to the Administrative Authorities. We therefore solicit your protection in order to have the authorisation renewed for the operating of the Society, and so that, for the good order of affairs, orders may be respected."

SORO is a lawful body: it is registered with the Central Department of Popular Instruction: the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants is part of this body and was authorised by our Bureau: there is nothing false about this affiliation. We therefore request you to examine this matter and to let us have a favourable reply.

Seals: PAN KUNG CHAN
TAO PAO CHUAN
TUNG JIN PAI

S O R O.

Shanghai, May 10, 1937.

CERTIFICATE.

This certifies that according to the records kept in the Offices of the Council of the United Russian Public Organisations in Shanghai (SORO), that the Russian Emigrants Organisation known as "SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF TO THE AGED RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS IN SHANGHAI" duly registered with this Council at present time is also registered by Chinese Authority as charitable institution. The present certificate is issued in accordance with Art. 13 of the Regulations of SORO, duly registered at the Bureau of Social Affairs, City Government of Greater Shanghai, on January 10, 1933.

Signed: GLEBOFF.

LETTER FROM MR. POPOFF DATED APRIL 21, 1937 TO THE FRENCH POLICE

I have the honour to forward herewith a list of members of the Society for the Relief of Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai and to inform you that the question of opening the shelter for old men has been definitely settled. Several persons of different nationality residing in the Settlement are prepared to assist us. Our Association not desiring to disturb residents of the French Concession, desires, however, to have the shelter located in the Concession since most of the Russian emigrants in question reside there. I have to add that our Society, which is affiliated to SORO, is sanctioned to function by the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang ~~Party~~ Party. I also have the honour to bring to your notice that a Society for assisting old men (six members) exists in the French Concession. This Society was organised by one AMANATSKY, who was charged for having embezzled certain funds. This society is now looked after by one DOMOGIROFF, to whom I have proposed that in the future his group be part of our association.

Signed: POPOFF.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

<u>Names.</u>	<u>Addresses</u>
<u>Honorary members</u>	
Archimandrite MANALI	Russian Churches.
General GLEBOFF	Russian Churches & SORO
Mme. Baroness GUINE	
Mr. OLSEN	
<u>Active members</u>	
POPOFF V	163 Muirhead Rd
STEPANOFF N	684 Avenue Joffre
APHANASIEFF G	1232 Rue Lafayette
DOUTOFF I	324 Rue T. de la Tour
DIDENKO F	do
STRELNIKOFF R	318 Rue Bourgeat
JOUK R	142 Rue Remé
MOGILNIKOFF G	145 Rue Lafayette
ARBOUSOFF N	633 Avenue Joffre
FOKIN V	do
CHERBAKOFF I	558 Ave. du Roi Albert
JURIEFF B.	115, Avenue Joffre.
LEMECHKO S.	298, Rue T. de la Tour.

CHESTOVSKY K.
OSTEN SAKEN V.
DAVIDENKO F.
CHARMAI F.
NOVIKOFF
TSVIEKOTEVITCH S.
ZAHAROFF A.
KROUCHLOFF I.
OUFIMTSEFF K.
PAVLOFF Y .
POPOFF, A.
RICHTEN V.
GORODIATZKY I .
POPOFF I.
ABATOURTSEFF D.
IKONIKOFF I.
LAPSHIN O.

Route Vallon.
290, Rue Delastre.
- do -
- do -
11, Rue G. Khan.
588, Rue du Roi Albert.
- do -
18, Route Vallon.
...
...
...
588, Avenue du Roi Albert.
- do -
501, Route Vallon.
962, Avenue Joffre.
Route Vallon.
684, Avenue Joffre.

APPENDIX VIII

Translation of a letter dated May 5, 1937 from POPOFF to the French Police (Mr. EMELIANOFF)

Mr. STEPANOFF, a member of the Association, has informed us that on May 4 he was invited to go to the French Police Station for, it would appear, having made collections in the French Concession without permission. I have the honour to inform you that no collection has been organised by us in the French Concession. The whole question is one of error, Mr. STEPANOFF being under the impression that the bank was situated in the Settlement (The bank concerned is Union Mobiliere, No. 1 Rue Montauban - Cf. the report of the C.I.D. (Detective STACHKO - May 1, 1937)). We would therefore ask you not to consider Mr. Stepanoff's action as being not in compliance with the orders of the French Police. We will come to the Police on the 8th. instant, in order to settle this unfortunate matter. We ask youx to excuse us in advance.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 4842
Date 23-4-37

S.1, Special Branch

REPORT

Date April 22, 1937.

Subject: Activities of the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants".

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev Forwarded by J. Byrne D.S.I.

I forward herewith a translation from the "Shanghai Zaria", April 20, 1937, concerning a general meeting of members of the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants" on April 18, 1937, during the course of which, V.O. POPOFF, Chairman of the Society in question, announced that it had been registered with the Shanghai District Kuomintang Headquarters through the medium and upon the recommendation of the "Council of United Russian Public Organization at Shanghai" (SORO).

On March 2, 1937, Mr. Metzler, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee, informed D.S.I. Makaroff by phone that N.N. Stepanoff, an individual with criminal record, employed by Popoff as a collector of donations, was visiting the offices of various foreign firms in the Settlement. Acting on instructions of the P.A. to D.C. (Special Branch) the undersigned visited Stepanoff at his home, 684 Avenue Joffre, on the same date and warned him to discontinue his begging activities in the Settlement.

Now that the Society has acquired a certain "legal standing", a revival of its activities may be expected.

Attached translation of a statement made to the Russian Emigrants Committee by one Th. N. Gorshkoff, ex-collector of the Society, throws some light on these activities.

D. C. (Special Branch)

D. S. I.

K.I.V.
re report
developments

RECEIVED
23 APR. 1937
SHANGHAI

S.I.
SBR
23/4
J.B.
D.P.

DBL: 22/4

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Translation from the "Shanghai Zaria" of April 20, 1937

AT THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR RELIEF TO
VERY AGED EMIGRANTS.

A general meeting of members of the Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants was held on Sunday, April 18 in the offices of the " Council of United Russian Public Organization at Shanghai". Thirty regular members of the Society as well as a representative of the Shanghai District Kuomintang Headquarters were present.

Mr. V.O. POPOFF, chairman of the Society, informed those present that upon an application made through the " Council of United Russian Public Organization at Shanghai" (SORO) and upon the recommendation of the latter, the Society has been approved by the Shanghai District Kuomintang Headquarters.

In view of the presence of a certain number of needy persons among the members of the Society it was decided to open a Shelter which will be inaugurated after the Easter holiday.

The following members were elected to serve on the Committee of the Society:-

V.O. POPOFF, N.N. STEPANOFF, A.I. MURASHEFF and AFANASIEFF.

Elected to serve on the Auditing Commission:-

A. STREINIKOFF, FOKIN and JOOCK.

On behalf of the Society, Mr. AREUSOFF, member of the Society, thanked V.O. Popoff and N.N. Stepanoff for the extensive work carried out by them for the benefit of the Society and expressed his wishes of a further prosperity and

1

success. He also thanked the representative of the Shanghai District Kuomintang Headquarters who was present at the meeting.

In recognition of the assistance rendered by Mr. Th.I. GLEBOFF, chairman of SORO, in the matter of registration of the Society with the Kuomintang, it was decided to ask him to be a Honorary Member of the Society.

STATEMENT

made to the Emigrants' Committee at Shanghai by Theodore Nikitich GORSHKOFF, residing at 676 Avenue Joffre, Room 8.

Hereby I bring to your notice the following:-

Upon my arrival in Shanghai and being unemployed I met N.N. STEPANOFF who offered me the job of a collector for the Society of Very Aged and Invalid .

Being without any work I accepted this offer and from 23/9/36 to January 1, 1937 I collected \$ 150. In January - \$ 110-120 and in February - \$ 90. Of this money Stepanoff gave me 50% for my living expenses and spent the rest as he wished and without giving any account, i. e. for himself. His own collections in December last, for instance, reached \$ 600 (approximately). Stepanoff does not visit offices where he was requested to give an account of the money. Receipt books used for collections were destroyed personally by Stepanoff. They were not delivered to POPOFF, chairman.

Seeing that it was all wrong. I decided to report the matter to the Emigrants' Committee. As far as I know, from the money collected Stepanoff pays \$ 23 rental for the house occupied by Popoff, the chairman, and gives him a small sum for living expenses. From the rest he gave to the old people 30 to 40 cents each. He gave (such sums) to DUTOFF, DIDENKO, PORTNIAGIN and MURASHEFF. Towards Christmas 4 of 5 old men received from \$ 5 to \$ 7 each. Recently Murasheff refused to sign any appeals for help because he did not receive anything.

(Signed) Th. Gorshkoff

8-4-37.

Въ Эмигрантскій Комитетъ г. Шанхая

Горькова Федора Никитича, 676
Авэню Морфре, комната 8,

З А Я В Л Е Н І Е.

Настоящимъ довожу до Вашего свѣдѣнія нижеслѣдующее:
по приѣздѣ въ Шанхай и будучи безъ работы я встрѣтилъ Н.Н.Степанова, который предложилъ мнѣ должность сборщика отъ Общества престарѣлыхъ и неспособныхъ къ труду.

Я будучи безъ службы принялъ его предложеніе и съ 23/9/36 къ Новому году / к1/1/3. / мною было собрано 150 дол. За Январь Дол.110-120 и Февраль 90 дол., изъ коихъ 50% Степановъ давалъ мнѣ на жизнь, а остальные безотчетно тратилъ по личному усмотрѣнію, т.е. на свои нужды. Сборъ лично Степанова напримѣръ за Декабрь мѣс. ист.года приблизительно дол. 600. Въ офисахъ, гдѣ требуютъ отчетъ Степановъ туда больше не ходитъ. Книжки, по которымъ производится сборъ, уничтожались лично Степановыми. Предсѣдатель Попову не сдавались. И вотъ видя всю эту несправедливость рѣшилъ обратиться къ Эмигрантскому Комитету. Насколько мнѣ извѣстно Степановъ изъ собранныхъ денегъ оплачиваетъ квартиру Предсѣдателя Попова / 23 дол. / и даетъ ему небольшую сумму на жизнь, а остальные старикамъ по 30-40 сѣнт. Давалъ Дутозу, Диденко, Портнягину, Мурашевъ. Къ Рождеству 4-5 стариковъ получили по 5-7 долларовъ. Последнее время Мурашевъ отказывался подписывать воззванія въ неполученія никакой помощи.

З.Горшковъ

8.4.1937 года.

THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS, SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 1937

NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the Society known as the "SOCIETY FOR THE RESCUE OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS" Order of the Headquarters District, No. 145, Lit. "J" on the 10th day of April 1937.

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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 4842

Section 1, Special Branch

REPORT

Date March 30, 1937

Subject Activities of A.G. Atlasoff.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev.

Forwarded by

T. Boyne D.S.I.

Attached herewith I forward a translation of advertisement which appeared in the "NOVOSTI DNIA" dated March 30, 1937. A.G. Atlasoff, the person who caused this advertisement to be inserted, is mentioned in file D-4842 in connection with his former activities on behalf of the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants".

On September 13, 1936 this individual published a note in local Russian newspapers to the effect that he had just returned from a business trip to the North and that he intended to continue his travelling in China in connection with his publication entitled "Travelling Advertising in the Far East".

On November 14 of the same year he was sentenced by the 2-nd S.S.D. Court to 30 days imprisonment on a charge of larceny (shoplifting).

G. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

D.C. (G)

D.C. (Special Branch).



FILE

DBR

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DBR.
3/3.

TRAVELLING ADVERTISING IN THE FAR EAST

This is the only advertising which facilitates the development of trade and industry.

This advertising furnishes various enterprises and hundreds of people with information regarding the activities and addresses of various firms, establishments, independent professional workers in the North and South China and other places in the Far East.

All this advertising material obtained in various cities of China and published in the 1-st and 2-nd issues of the "TRAVELLING ADVERTISING IN THE FAR EAST" has been received and studied with great interest in the Far East. About 10,000 copies of the 1-st and 2-nd issues of the publication have been distributed in the Far East by hand as well as by post.

At present collecting of materials- advertisements, addresses of firms etc.- is being continued in the interior of China for the 3-rd issue of the "TRAVELLING ADVERTISING IN THE FAR EAST".

Besides, preliminary work is being carried out in connection with other publications.

NOTE: The publications have been approved by the Chinese Government.

A. ATLASOFF, Publisher.

Travelling Advertising IN THE FAR EAST

Это единственная реклама, которая содействует развитию торговли и промышленности.

Эта реклама знакомит различных предприятий и сотни тысяч людей с торгово-промышленными фирмами, учреждениями, лицами свободных профессий, их деятельностью и адресами на Севере и Юге Китая и других местах Дальнего Востока.

Весь рекламный материал, полученный в различных городах Китая и, отпечатанный 1-ой и 2-ой сериями «Travelling Advertising in the Far East» с большим интересом принимается и просматривается на Дальнем Востоке. 1-ой и 2-ой серии распространены на Дальнем Востоке около десяти тысяч (10.000 экземпляров, при помощи личной раздачи и отсылки по почте).

В настоящее время в глубинах Китая производится сбор материала объявлений и адресов фирм и для издания третьей серии «Travelling Advertising in the Far East».

Кроме того, так же идет подготовительная работа для других изданий.

Примечание: — Издания разрешены Китайским Правительством.

Издатель. А. Атласов.

Original on C/R File #2188.
Z.C

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. SOCIETY

No. 5 B D. 4842

Section 2, Special Branch 114411-36

November 14 1936.

Letter dated 16.10.36 from the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants."

Attached herewith together with translation is letter dated 16.10.36 from the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants." A report on this Society was submitted by this section on Sept. 18, 1936 (Gen.Reg. file F.2188) when it was suggested that no acknowledgement in writing be given to their letters. It will be recalled that in 1933 the French Police withdrew from this Society permission to function in the French Concession and that in March 1935 they were warned by the Municipal Police to discontinue their activities in the Settlement.

Enquiries show that on November 7, 1936 the application of the Society for permission to renew their activities was turned down by the French Police.

The delay in forwarding this letter occurred because it was addressed in my name and was delivered to Room 603 some time between 19/10 and 26/10 when I was sick in quarters. It was not until November 14 that I found the letter among my papers and discovered that it contained a communication addressed to Commissioner of the Police.

Original on C/R file F. 2188.

TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN

4842
10-9-36

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS
No. 200.

September 4, 1936.

105 Route Vallon, Apt.13.

To Commissioner of the Municipal Police,
Shanghai.

Sir,

Enclosing herewith a copy of minutes of general meeting concerning the newly formed "Society For The Relief Of Very Aged Emigrants", as well as a copy of the Statute of the Society, I have the honour to apply for registration of the Society and for approval of the Statute. I also have to state that a similar application has been submitted to the French Police and that I have received from Mr. Metzler, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee, a reply in writing to the effect that he has no objection to the establishment of the said Society.

(Signed) Lieut. Colonel Strelnikoff
Chairman.

Revision Committee

M.V. Gleboff.....Chairman

V.R. JockMember

I.M. Ikonnikoff.....Member

2. To entrust Messrs. Strelnikoff and Gleboff with the task of working out a statute of the Society.
3. To ask Mr. Strelnikoff to take the necessary steps for registration of the statute of the Society with the Russian Emigrants Committee and submit to the French Police and, if necessary, to the Municipal Police and the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, for approval.
4. To defray, out of funds of the Society, the ~~cost~~ of rental of the room used as its office.
5. To elect, in accordance with their wish, the following persons honorary members of the Society:
Archmandrite Makary, Baroness P.F. Geone, Mrs. A.M. Popoff and Mrs. Ya. Ya. Pavloff.

For true copy

(Signed) Strelnikoff

Chairman of the Committee.

Original on file F. 2188

TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 4842
Date 10-9-36
<u>COPY</u>

Protocol No. 1

July 24, 1936. Shanghai.

The following persons attended the meeting for the purpose of discussing the question of formation of a new SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS and indigent invalids:-

M.V. Gleboff	I.G. Yurieff
G.A. Afonassieff	V.R. Joeck
A.I. Murashoff	N.I. Arbusoff
N.N. Stepanoff	C.A. Shestovsky
C.A. Strelnikoff	C.A. Portniagin
A.I. Dutoff	G.I. Mogilnikoff
G.I. Ufimtseff, (female)	Ya.Ya. Pavloff
F.I. Didenko	A.N. Pavloff (female). Popoff
X.S. Yurieff (female)	D.N. Abaturoff
I.E. Ikonnikeff	M.F. Demidoff

After having discussed the question of the establishment of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants and indigent invalids, those present at the meeting came to the agreement to form funds of the Society from contributions of kind-hearted persons who have done so much for poor people by their donations. First of all the Society should, if possible, endeavour to open a shelter for aged persons, even though a very modest one. A statute of the Society must be worked out, which will be registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee etc., and submitted to the Police authorities for approval.

Upon reaching the above agreement the meeting decided:

1. To elect from those present a Committee of the Society consisting of Chairman, 2 members, 1 candidate and 1 Secretary. The following persons were unanimously elected:-

Lieut-Colonel M.A. StrelnikoffChairman
M. N. StepanoffMember
D. N. AbaturoffMember
G.I. Ufimtseff (Mrs.)Acting Secretary
G.A. PortniaginActing Secretary

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

Section 2, Special Branch
REPORT

Date July 13, 1936

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. REGISTRY

S. B. D. 4842

Date 3/6/36 36

Subject: Activities of A. G. Atlassoff

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev

Forwarded by

J.B. Ross et al.

* See also
D 8672

Attached herewith I forward translation of a note which appeared in the local Russian newspaper "Vecherniya Zaria" of July 10, 1936. In this note it is stated that a certain A.G. Atlassoff, Russian, and his secretary, name unknown, will be leaving Shanghai on July 20 on a trip to Thibet and the interior of China in order to "make a study of life and customs of the Chinese population." It is also stated that upon returning from his proposed trip Atlassoff intends to publish an album containing information regarding the Far East. A similar announcement (translation attached) was broadcast a few days ago from a local radio station situated at House 36, No.504 Avenue Foch (XHNB).

Atlassoff has a criminal record and besides came to notice of the Municipal Police in connection with his activities on behalf of the so-called "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants" (File D.4842). In his capacity of a collector of donations for the said society he and his "secretary" V. Kenovaloff (Criminal Card No. 861) visited various cities in China including Hankow, Nanking, Peiping, Tientsin and Canton. In the latter two cities his activities aroused the suspicion of the local authorities. This resulted in an investigation of the general activities ^{and} bona fides of the Society in question in Shanghai, following which, in July 1933, the authorities of the French Concession withdrew from the Society permission to function in the concession. In March 1935, Mr. V.O. Popoff, Chairman of the Society, was warned by the Municipal Police that the activities of the "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants" should be discontinued within the limits of the Settlement.

On June 20 1936, Atlassoff in a letter to the editor of

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

Station,
Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

SLOVO stated for general information that he is no longer engaged in collecting donations on behalf of any charitable organization.

There is every reason to believe that the proposed "scientific" trip of Atlassoff will be of the same nature as his previous trips, i.e. collecting money from various firms and individuals on various pretexts. Whether in doing so he will keep within the limits of a legitimate commercial business remains to be seen, but in view of his previous activities and associations the movements of this individual are worth watching.

A. P. Kofier.

D. S. I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

FILE

Translation from the "VECHERNIAYA ZARIA"
of July 10, 1936.

A. G. ATASSOFF'S INTENDED TRIP TO THIBET

On July 20 Mr. A. G. Atlassoff and his secretary will be leaving Shanghai on a trip to Thibet and the inner provinces of China in order to make a study of life and customs of the Chinese population.

Upon his return from the proposed trip Mr. Atlassoff intends to publish an album devoted to the Far East. The album will contain photographs of landscapes presenting historical interest or famous by the scenic beauty.

Translation of announcement broadcast from
the "1st Tartar Broadcasting Association"
(KHBB), 504/36 Avenue Foch.

In the near future Mr. Atlassoff upon his own initiative and in company with his secretary will undertake a trip in the Far East and the interior of China in order to make a study of life and customs of various peoples. He intends to make a record ^{of} his impressions and experiences and later to publish an Album of the Far East.

To cover his expenses he accepts advertisements and addresses from firms, offices, banks, hotels, restaurants and individuals, for information and advertising purposes while on his trip by means of his "Advertisements Book" as well as by means of a special booklet entitled "Travelling Advertising in the Far East", 5,000 copies of which has already been published by him.

Mr. Atlassoff has been entrusted with a number of missions of a commercial character in the Far East, including our mission. Therefore, beginning from this month Mr. Atlassoff is a representative of our station known as the "1st Tartar Broadcasting Association KHBB", of which Mr. I.A. Mamleyeff is the owner.

Upon completion of the proposed trip Mr. Atlassoff will publish his "China Directory" and will utilise for this purpose the data collected by him.

Mr. Atlassoff has received from over 300 various institutions, societies, firms, offices and banks in Shanghai, wishes of success in his trip which also contain requests of rendering him every assistance in his undertaking.

In his intended trip Mr. Atlassoff will travel by steamers, railways, motor buses and sometimes in small boats and on foot.

SLOVO. June 20. 1936.

Translation.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

I hereby notify all interested firms and individuals in Shanghai and in other places of the Far East that I, A. Atlasof, was engaged in collecting funds for a number of charitable societies in Shanghai. All money and documents have been delivered to the respective societies against receipts and I have discontinued my work in this capacity on my own account.

At present I do not work in any public organization.

(Signed): A. Atlasoff.



SERVICES DE POLICE
SERVICE POLITIQUE

Changhai, le

30 November 1935

B. D. 4842
3 12 35

RAPPORT

No. 845/3

Objet: Renseignements sur le sieur A.G. ATASSOFF, membre de la Société de Secours aux émigrés russes âgés.

Réfer: Note parue sur A.G. ATASSOFF, le 23/11/35 dans le "Shanghai Times".

Le "Shanghai Times" a publié, le 23/11/35, la note suivante :

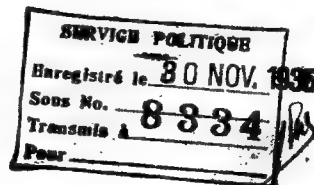
"M. A.G. ATASSOFF, ancien représentant de la Société de Secours aux émigrés russes âgés, a l'intention de faire, sur sa propre initiative un voyage dans les différents pays d'Extrême-Orient et plus particulièrement à l'intérieur de la Chine en vue d'étudier la vie et les coutumes du peuple. Il se propose de recueillir les impressions de son voyage dans un livre spécial qu'il publiera sous le nom d'"Album d'Extrême-Orient".

C.D.S.

D.A/V.R.

A.G. ATASSOFF, comme la Société de Secours aux émigrés russes âgés, ont fait plusieurs fois l'objet de rapports du Service Politique.

La Société de Secours aux émigrés russes âgés fut autorisée en Concession Française par lettre du Directeur des Services de Police No 1320/A du 23 décembre 1932. Cette autorisation lui fut ensuite retirée par lettre du Directeur des Services de Police No 775/A du 19 juillet 1933 quand il fut prouvé que la Société en question avait été fondée dans le seul but de procurer des ressources à M. POPOFF, son président et à trois ou quatre membres du soi-disant comité de cette organisation qui



vivaient sur les fonds recueillis en faveur de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés.

Ils procédaient à ce sujet à des quêtes organisées à Shanghai et dans d'autres villes de la Chine.

Le 9 Juin 1933, le Consulat de France de Canton demandait par lettre des renseignements sur la Société et signalait qu'un certain ATLIASSOFF s'était vu refuser l'autorisation de quêter pour cette société dans la Concession française de Shamsen.

La lettre du Consulat de Canton motiva le compte-rendu de renseignements 243/2 du 26 juin 1933. Ce compte-rendu se terminait comme suit : "... POPOFF nous a affirmé que le nommé ATLIASSOFF "avait été dûment autorisé par lui à faire des quêtes au nom "de la société dans le sud de la Chine. Il a ajouté qu'il connaissait "ATLIASSOFF, mais qu'il ignorait ce que ce dernier faisait à Shanghai

"Or, il semble bien qu'ATLIASSOFF, qui est un voleur profession-
"nel - deux condamnations à Shanghai - (1) sans compter de nom-
"breuses condamnations dans les autres villes de la Chine et du
"Japon, a voulu profiter de documents que lui a fourni POPOFF pour
"légaler" sa "tournée" dans le sud de la Chine et pour faciliter
"son "travail" au cours de cette tournée. A noter, entre autres,
"qu'ATLIASSOFF est parti pour Canton en compagnie du nommé KONOVALOFF
"également voleur professionnel (2) et vieux compagnon d'ATLIASSOFF.
"Il était réellement difficile de trouver de meilleurs quêteurs
"pour la "Société de secours aux Emigrés russes âgés".

(1) Voir relevé des condamnations subies par cet individu ci-joint.
(2) Voir relevé des condamnations subies par cet individu ci-joint.

En Janvier 1935, M. POPOFF qui n'a jamais tenu com te de l'interdiction qui a frappé le fonctionnement de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés en Concession Française, adressa, au nom de la Société, à la Municipalité Française une demande d'autorisation de publier un album publicitaire. Cette autorisation fut refusée par lettre 130/A du 30 janvier 1934 du Directeur des Services de Police.

La presse russe du 24 février 1935 fit savoir qu'ATLASSOFF était à Tientsin et, au nom de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés recueillait de l'argent pour un album qu'il donnait comme "patroné" par la S.D.F. et par le Gouvernement de Nankin.

Par lettre 352/A du 2/3/35, du Directeur des Services de Police p.i., les principales pièces du dossier de la Société de Secours aux Emigrés russes âgés, furent adressées au chef de la Garde de la Concession Française de Tientsin.

Ce dernier, par lettre du 8 mars, fit savoir qu'ATLASSOFF était parti pour Shanghai le 18 février et que durant son séjour à Tientsin, il avait obtenu environ 150 dollars pour des annonces à paraître dans l'"Album of the Far East and other places".

Vu l'intention du nommé ATLASSOFF d'entreprendre actuellement dans le même but, un nouveau voyage à l'intérieur du pays et les antécédents de cet individu, il y aurait lieu d'en informer les autorités consulaires françaises dans les différentes villes de la Chine.

ATLASSOFF est nanti actuellement des pièces d'identité suivantes :

1) Certificat d'enregistrement auprès du Bureau de la Sécurité Publique de Shanghai sous le No 3071.

2. Passeport d'émigré russe No 10412 émis par le Bureau de la Sécurité Publique de Shanghai le 10/12/34 portant mention "bon pour un voyage à Tsingtao, Teintsin, Pékin, Harbine, Hankow, Canton, Nankin et retour.

Il se peut qu'ATLASSOFF ait eu main, en outre, un passeport d'émigré russe pour l'étranger, émis par le Bureau de la Sécurité Publique, le 10/12/34 et valable pour un voyage au Japon, à Macao, à Hongkong, au Siam, en Indochine et à Manille et qu'il n'a pas rendu depuis au Bureau de la Sécurité Publique.

A.G. ATLASSOFF est actuellement âgé d'environ 40 ans. Il habite à Shanghai, au No 106, Route Vallon, log. No2./.

Ampliations :

No 1 -

2 -

3 -

4 - *Deputy Commissioner (Special Branch - S.M.P.)*

CONCESSION FRANCAISE
DE SHANGHAI

Services de Police

Identité judiciaire.

Changhai, le 26 Novembre 1935

RELEVÉ DE CONDAMNATIONS.

No 1612

Nom ATASSOFF

Surnom.

Prénom Alexandre.

Surnom.

Age 35 ans

Né le

à.....

Nationalité né en Russie

(figurant sur la fiche anthropométrique)

Motif des Pourpaites	Dates	Peines infligées	Autorité qui a jugé.
Vol	19-12-28	2 mois prison p. c.	Cour provisoire S.M.P.
Vol sans magasin (2 affaires)	25-2-30	3 mois prison p.c.	Cour provisoire S.M.P.
		Pas d'antécédent sur la Concession Française.	

signé : Illisible.

CONCESSION FRANÇAISE
DE SHANGHAI.

Services de Police
Identité Judiciaire.

Shanghai, le 26 Novembre 1935

RELEVÉ DE CONDAMNATIONS

No 1128

Nom KONOVALOFF

Surnom.....

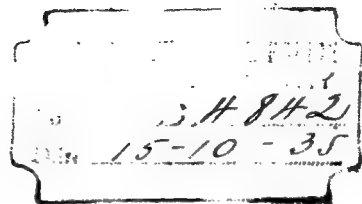
Prénom Vassili Grégorievitch Surnom.....

Age 35 ans Né le 14 janvier 1898 à Moscou.

Nationalité Russe

(figurant sur la fiche anthropométrique)

Motif des Poursuites	Dates	Peines infligées	Autorité qui a jugé
Menaces à main armée	'19-7-29'	Plainte retirée	'
Vol	'17-11-30'	9 mois de prison et expulsé	'
Relâché	'12-6-31'	D.C. 17-11-30	'
Vol	'19-9-33'	4 mois de prison	'
		<u>Police Internationale.</u>	'
Vol dans les magasins	'26-8-26'	3 semaines prison	'
Recel	'25-7-25'	Relâché	'
Fraude	'29-5-30'	3 mois prison et 300\$ d'amende ou 100 jours de prison en plus.	'
Vol à la tire	'26-10-31'	Acquitté	'
Vol dans les magasins	'24-12-31'	1 ans et 6 mois de prison p.c.	'
		signé : Illisible.	'



October 11, 35.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter No. 1071, dated September 17, 1935, on the subject of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants (Russian) in Shanghai, and to state that this organization has already come under the notice of the Municipal Police.

The Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai was founded in 1929 by a small group of individuals who were partly or entirely dependent on charity. They obtained registration with the Russian Emigrant's Committee, No. 112/1 Moulmein Road, in 1929, but this was cancelled in 1932 in consequence of suspicion that the professions of the Society were not bona fide. It was alleged at the time that the members kept no accounts but divided among themselves any money which they collected. It moreover came to light that their appeals for funds were always addressed to foreigners, and their existence was ignored by the Russian community.

Being convinced of the undesirable character of the activities of the Society through a communication from Canton, the French Police cancelled a permit by which the Society was authorized to function in the French Concession. According to this communication, Atlasoff and another representative had told deliberate falsehoods in Canton in order to obtain subscriptions.

Mr. V. P. Popoff, Chairman of the Society, endeavored to obtain permission in March 1935 to function in the International Settlement, but was informed that the Municipal Police did not consider the existence of the Society desirable.

and that functioning in the Settlement in any manner whatever must be discontinued forthwith. Enquiries regarding that request showed that the Society had been registered since 1932 with the Council of United Russian Public Organisations. A body of Russians which has been accorded official recognition by the Chinese Authorities.

Mr. Popoff was interviewed on October 8, 1935, by a member of this Force who explained to him the circumstances under which the albums and documents were seized from Atlassoff and confiscated by the Tientsin Police. Mr. Popoff claims that the Society is authorized to make collections all over China by the Council of the United Russian Public Organisations and contends that the seizure of the documents and albums by the Tientsin Police was illegal. He added that he intends to take steps to recover them.

Atlassoff has a criminal record as follows:-

Larceny, 2 months; 19-12-23. Released on remission of sentence on 8-2-29.

Shoplifting (2 counts), 3 months, plus 10 days' remission 25-2-30.

As the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai is not recognized as a bona fide charitable organisation either in the Settlement or French Concession, I am returning herewith the documents and albums which were forwarded to me with your letter of September 18, 1935.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd) K. M. Bourne.

Acting Commissioner of Police.

The Chief of Police,

British Municipal Council,

Tientsin.

✓
Sent under
separate cover
on 14/10/35
ASD

SHANGHAI C.K.Y. (c) MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. #842
S. 2, Special Branch, 10-35

REPORT

Date October 9, 1935.

Subject Letter from British Police, Tientsin, re A.G. Atlassoff, collector of donations on behalf of the "Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai"

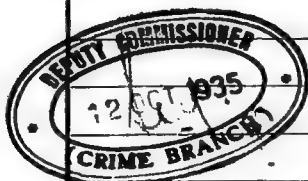
Made by D.S. Makaroff.

Forwarded by D.S. Boyle

In continuation of my previous report dated October 4, 1935, on the subject of the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants, I have to state that in accordance with the request of the British Police, Tientsin, the undersigned located Mr. V. Popoff, Chairman of the above mentioned Society, on October 8, 1935, and explained to him the circumstances under which the albums and documents seized from Atlassoff were confiscated by the Tientsin Police.

Further, he was informed that owing to the fact that his Society does not appear to be a bona fide charitable organization and more over is defunct at present, therefore all the documents and the albums now in possession of the Shanghai Municipal Police, will have to be returned to the British Police, Tientsin, as requested.

Mr. Popoff stated that although the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai is not active at present, it is duly registered with the Council of the United Russian Public Organizations, and therefore he considers the detention of the documents and albums as illegal and will take steps to obtain their return from the Tientsin Police.



D. S. Makaroff

D. S.

D. C. (Special Branch).

D.C. (Crime)

Information, I

suggest that documents and albums be returned to Tientsin Police.

J.H.

11 OCT 1935

C.K.Y. (c)
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. H 842

S. 2, Special Branch, ~~Shanghai~~

REPORT

Date October 4, 1935.

Subject Letter from British Police, Tientsin, re A.G. Atlassoff, collector of donations on behalf of the "Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai".

Made by D.S. Makaroff. Forwarded by D.S. I. *by*

With reference to the letter dated September 17, 1935, from Chief of Police, British Municipal Council, Tientsin, on the subject of A.G. Atlassoff, collector of donations on behalf of the "Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai", I have to state the following:-

The society in question was founded in 1929, when it was registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, No. 118/1 Moulin Road. In September 1932, however, it severed its connection with that body and registered with the "Council of United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai", No. 8 Avenue Dubail.

"The Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai", defunct at present, had no standing as a charity organization and can be better described as a small group of individuals who were partly or fully dependent on charity. Distribution among its members of whatever money could be collected by soliciting donations was the only form of activities in which the Society has been engaged since its inception.

It is of interest to note that all donors were foreigners other than Russians and that on no occasion was the amount of money donated disclosed to the public.

During 1932 the activities of the Society gave rise to suspicion due to the methods employed for collecting donations, absence of public acknowledgements of monies received, and disbursed and the fact of certain individuals of a shady character being connected with the Society. As a result of these suspicions the Society was struck off the list of organizations registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

- 2 -

Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

In July, 1933, as a result of a communication from the French Police, Canton, regarding the undesirable activities in that city of two "representatives" of the Society, one of whom was A. Atlassoff, the Authorities of the French Concession in Shanghai withdrew from the Society the permission to function in the Concession.

In March 1935, Mr. V.P. Popoff, Chairman of the Society, was informed that the Municipal Police did not consider the existence of the Society desirable and that it should discontinue forthwith all activities in the Settlement, including the use of an office for soliciting donations from other places.

Thus the "Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai" became defunct in March 1935.

Regarding the activities of A.G. Atlassoff as a collector of donations on behalf of the above mentioned Society it should be stated that during 1932, upon registration of the Society with the Council of United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai, a certificate was issued to him on the application of Popoff to the effect that A. Atlassoff was a duly registered Russian emigrant and was authorized by the Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai to collect donations on behalf of the Society in Shanghai and other cities in China.

In February 1933 Atlassoff made an unsuccessful attempt to have this document endorsed by the Commissioner of the Shanghai Municipal Police to the effect that the Police have no objection to these collections.

It is known that during the past two years, Atlassoff in his capacity of a "representative" of the Society visited

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

- 3 -

Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

Made by.....

Forwarded by.....

Nanking, Hankow, Peking and Tientsin, where along with collecting donations he also obtained autographs of various prominent persons, in his "Golden Book of Wishes," in which they wished success to the Society. He also carried with him the so-called "Album of the Far East and Other Places," in which advertising space was offered to various firms etc., in return for donations. The Society intended to publish the album later and offer it for sale, and certain prominent donors were to be presented with a copy of it free of charge. This, according to Popoff's statement, was purely a commercial undertaking, designed to perpetuate the existence of the Society.

Popoff is a very old and apparently a helpless man. It is possible that a few destitute persons occasionally received assistance from him, but as far as he and his associate Atlassoff were concerned, the business of collecting donations has been a paying proposition, despite the obstacles placed in their way.

On the whole, the Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants, had all the elements of a bogus organization.

The criminal record of A.G. Atlassoff reads as follow:-

Larceny. 2 months. 19.12.28. C.

Released on remission of sentence 8.2.29.

Shoplifting (2 counts). 3 months. 25.2.30. C.

plus 10 days remission.

In consequence of the Society being defunct, the albums and documents received from the Tientsin Police are submitted herewith for favour of return as requested.

V. Chas. Rang.

D. S.

D. C. (Special Branch).

September 23,

35.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 1071,
dated September 17, 1935, I am now in receipt
of your letter No. 1076 of September 18 to-
gether with Albums and documents in question.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sd) K. M. Bourne.

Acting Commissioner of Police.

The Chief of Police,

British Municipal Council,

Tientsin.

2d. with 5.2.



POLICE DEPARTMENT.

No.1076

*Council Offices,
Tientsin.*

September 18, 1935.

Dear Mr. Bourne.

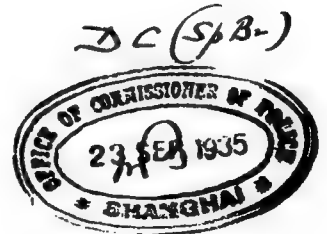
Further to my letter No.1071 of yesterday's date, I am forwarding herewith, per s.s. "Shengking", the Albums and documents referred to therein.

Yours sincerely,

R. H. Dennis.

CHIEF OF POLICE
British Municipal Council
TIENTSIN

The Acting Commissioner,
Shanghai Municipal Police Force,
SHANGHAI.





POLICE DEPARTMENT.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "BRITMUPAL"

1273.
20 9 35.
Council Offices,

No.1071

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
September 18, 1935
Date 20 9 35

Dear Mr. Bourne.

Early this year an individual named A. G. Atlasoff (Russian subject), who styled himself "the representative of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants (Russian) in Shanghai", was touring this town collecting subscriptions to his Society and also obtaining sums of money for advertising purposes in a book known as the "Album of the Far East and Other Places". This man also carried about with him another book in which he induced Russians of good standing, particularly priests of the old Russian Church, and similar people anxious to assist necessitous Russians, to inscribe their wishes for the success of his efforts. In this way he has obtained testimonials from practically every Russian of repute in Tientsin and other places. By having this book with him with these persons' signatures, he creates an air of respectability and sympathisers believe that he is endeavouring to assist aged Russian emigrants and part with various sums of money.



The Acting Commissioner,
Shanghai Municipal Police Force,
S H A N G H A I.

In my opinion, this man is a humbug and is using these names solely for the purpose of obtaining charitable contributions which are mostly being spent upon himself. In consequence of local complaints, I interviewed this man early in February and ascertained that during the past two years he has been travelling for this so-called Society, and that amongst other places he has visited Canton, Hongkong, Siam, Nanking, Swatow and Hankow. The whole of these travelling expenses have been taken from the contributions which were intended to go to the relief and support of aged Russians. In addition, his hotel and other incidental expenses have also been taken from these charitable contributions, and I cannot think other than that this Society is a very good thing for himself. I asked him to submit to me a statement of the contributions he had received in Tientsin and I found that, according to his own figures, he had obtained \$156 in cash and a promise of \$40 from residents towards the relief of these emigrants. According to his figures, his expenses in travelling to and living in Tientsin had amounted to \$178.50. I enquired of him where this expenditure would be met and he admitted that it would be taken from the subscriptions that he obtained here. I think the fraudulent activities of this man are all too obvious.

In consequence of these complaints, the British Municipal Council directed that he be expelled from the Area and that he be precluded from advertising in the Area or in any way attempting to obtain funds. The aforementioned albums and other

papers on him were confiscated and, no doubt, thinking the place had become too hot for him, he left hurriedly.

According to your records this man has a criminal record for larceny and shoplifting, vide a copy of his criminal record which you forwarded to me some time back. His criminal record file name is Alexander Atlasoff.

H.B.M.'s Consul-General here has now received a letter, dated 4th September, 1935, from a man named Popoff, who styles himself "Chairman of the Committee of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants", in which he asks for the return of the Album and other documents taken from Atlasoff. I am very loath to do this unless I am assured that this is a bona fide charitable organisation. I am, therefore, directed by H.B.M.'s Consul-General in Tientsin to forward ^{to you} the albums and documents referred to and to ask if you will be good enough to allow an officer to interview Mr Popoff and explain to him how the aforementioned articles were seized from Atlasoff and confiscated by the Police of this District. I am also to inform you that if this Society is a bona fide charitable organisation then the albums and other documents may be handed over to Mr Popoff against receipt. Otherwise I am to ask you to return them to this office.

Yours sincerely,

R.H. Dennis

CHIEF OF POLICE
British Municipal Council
TIENTSIN

*No record in
Crime Registry*

20/9/35

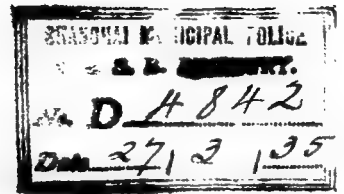
Has two P.C's

C.R. 1260.

J.D. 31/9

*No record
20-9-35
H. Dennis*

Returned 'stake'



March 26th 35.

Dear Captain Gaible,

On receipt of your letter, No.469/A, dated March 21st. 1935, instructions were issued in the matter and it is now reported to me that the letter you refer to has been handed over to your Inspector Emelianoff.

I trust that the action taken fulfils your wishes in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Captain P. Gaible,

Directeur des Services de Police,

French Concession,

Shanghai.

A handwritten signature, possibly "J. P. Gaible", in dark ink.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

S. 2, Special

REPORT

Date March 25, 1935.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. REGISTRY.
No. D 4842
Branch Inspector
Date

Subject Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev.

Forwarded by

J.B.R. D.I.

At 9.30 a.m. on March 25, 1935, Mr. V.O. Popoff, Chairman of the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants, came to this office. In accordance with instructions of D.C. (Special Branch) he was informed that the Municipal Police do not consider the existence of the above mentioned Society desirable and that it should discontinue forthwith all activities in the Settlement, including the use of an address in the Settlement for soliciting donations from other places.

Mr. Popoff then consented to accompany the undersigned to the French Police Headquarters, where all documents which had been obtained from him during the course of enquiries regarding the Society, including letter of the Chief of the French Police dated December 23, 1932 (No. 1320/A), were returned to him against receipt. The letter in question was then taken possession of by Inspector Smelianoff of the French Police.

A. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

CP

D. C. (Special Branch).



*D.C. (Crime)
Information and
kindly pass to C.I.
J.P.*

25 MAR 1935

Translation from Russian.

On March 25, 1935, I was informed by D.S.I. Prokofiev that the Shanghai Municipal Police do not consider desirable the existence of the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants, of which I am the Chairman, and that therefore the Society should discontinue forthwith all its activities within the limits of the International Settlement, including the use of an address in the Settlement for soliciting donations from other places.

All documents, which I had handed over to D.S.I. Prokofiev, were returned to me by him.

Chairman of the Committee of the Society
for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants

(Signed) V. Popoff

House No 9, 627 Avenue Joffre.

SOCIETY

FOR THE RELIEF OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS

年老僑民救濟會

SOCIÉTÉ

pour le secours des Emigrants âgés.

No. 2.

We Have Given our
Mind and Abilities to
our Country.

Nous avons donné
toutes nos forces pour
la patrie.

" 22 " March 1935 Shanghai Address: 697 Avenue Joffre
Chairman's residence: apt. 9, room 1.

The Commissioner
Shanghai Municipal Police
Local.

Sir:

I have the honour to request you to grant the Society headed by me the permission to establish its seat in the Settlement.

The legalisation documents of our Society, which is existing in Shanghai since 1929, have been handed over to Sub-Inspector Prokopieff. We shall be obliged if you will kindly return us same after perusal in view of the forthcoming General Meeting of members of our Society.

Yours faithfully

Chairman of the Committee

V. Papoff.



Shanghai, March 21, 1935.

No. 469/A

Major F.W. Gerrard C.I.E.,
Commissioner of Police,
Shanghai.

Dear Major Gerrard,

I have the honour of informing you that by my letter No. 1320/A dated December 23, 1932, I informed Mr. V.O. Popoff that the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants had been granted permission to function in the French Concession. However, in view of the fact that members of the Committee of the above-mentioned organization were engaged in dishonest practices for the purpose of obtaining funds, I addressed to Mr. Popoff another letter on July 19, 1933 (No. 775/A) informing him that the permission, which had been granted to him, was withdrawn.

I am informed that Mr. Popoff continues to utilize my original letter in order to make people believe that the Society, of which he is the President, still has a legal standing in the French Concession. I am also informed that the letter in question is at present in possession of Mr. Givens.

Consequently, I should be grateful if you would not return this letter to Mr. Popoff, but would let me have it instead.

I am, etc.

(Signed)

Gaible.

Directeur des Services de Police p.i.

D.S. Prokofiev.

Zmarin.

24/3

S2. Please take action as spoken with a view to giving effect to Capt. Gaible's wishes. The letter must not be given back to Popoff.

J.H.G.

28 MAR 1935



SERVICES DE POLICE
DIRECTION

N° 469/A

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL
S. B. REGISTRATION

Changhai, le

No. D 4842
21 Mars 1935
Date

Monsieur le Major F. W. GERRARD C.I.E.

Commissioner of Police

CHANGHAI

Cher Major GERRARD,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que par ma lettre N° I320/A en date du 23 Décembre 1932, j'ai informé Mr. V.O. POPOFF de l'autorisation accordée à la Société de Secours aux Emigrés Russes de fonctionner dans la Concession Française, et que, par la suite, les membres du Comité de cette organisation s'étant livrés à des opérations malhonnêtes pour se procurer des ressources, j'ai adressé le 19 Juillet 1933, sous N° 775/A, une autre lettre à Mr. POPOFF pour lui signifier que l'autorisation dont il bénéficiait était retirée.

Or, j'apprends que Mr. POPOFF continuerait à exciper de ma première lettre pour faire croire que la Société dont il est le président, a toujours une existence légale sur la Concession Française. Je suis également informé que cette lettre se trouve actuellement dans les mains de Mr. GIVENS.

En conséquence, je vous serais reconnaissant de bien vouloir ne pas restituer cette lettre à Mr. POPOFF et me la faire tenir.

Veuillez agréer, Cher Major GERRARD, l'assurance de mes sentiments distingués./.

Directeur des Services de Police p.i.

S 2, For
translation with a
view to compliance
with wishes of
French Police.

JH
22 MAR. 1935

273

273

273

translation with
273

273

Translation from ⁴⁸⁴² Russian.

Date 16 / 3 / 35

March 14, 1935.

Shanghai.

Apt. 9, No. 697 Avenue
Joffre.

To Chief of the British Police.

Sir,

In view of the fact that the Tientsin Police requested from you information regarding the Society of which I have been the Head since 1929, all documents confirming the legal status of our Society have been presented by me to Sub-Inspector Prokofiev, who has considered all points of the question carefully and with great attention.

I have the honour to ask you, Sir, to express, if possible, your opinion on the question whether or not our Society exists in Shanghai. In the negative case, the Society will be immediately liquidated. Otherwise it is desirable that the Tientsin Police would accelerate return of the confiscated documents belonging to the Society.

\$2. Please tell them that the Police do not consider the existence of their Society desirable, and that it should be liquidated forthwith.

J.H.G.

18 MAR 1935

Chairman of the Governing Board

Popoff

For Secretary (Signed)

D.S. Prokofiev

JMR 18/3

SOCIETY

FOR THE RELIEF OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS

年老僑民救濟會

SOCIÉTÉ

pour le secours des Emigrants âgés.

We have given our
Mind and Abilities to
our Country.

Nous avons donné
toutes nos forces pour
la patrie.

No. 1.

" 14 " Mapnia 19352. Shanghai Address: № 697 Klapmuis
председатель. Я.

Господиному Грабному Карабнику Английскому Полиции.

Ввиду того, что Полиция и Полиция отнеслась в подвздош-
ствовавшую Вам Полицию Карабника Полиции от записки отнес-
тельно возмущаемая мною Общества. от 1934, и все документы
подтверждающие правомерность наших Полиции Полиции
И. С. У. Инспектору Полиции, который тщательно и от бр-
ниме внимание по запискам Полиции Полиции Полиции.

И потому есть покорно просить Полицию Карабника Полиции
если возможно, высказать свои взгляды, существующие наше Об-
щество в. в. Манхей ит. ит. в. в. отрицательном случае,
Общество немедленно будет ликвидировано, а в положитель-
ном случае желательным, что бы Полиция Полиция Полиция
высказал задержанным документам Полиции Полиции Полиции.



Председатель Грабник
Политик
За Секретаря Полиции

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special

REPORT

Date March 14, 1935.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRATION
File No. 4842
No. D
Date March 14, 1935

Subject Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev

Forwarded by

O.B.R. D.

obtained
on loan
from M2.
Papato.
J.B.R.

Returned
on 25/3/35
A.P.

In continuation of the report dated March 1, 1935, on the subject of the Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants. I forward herewith a booklet intended for the use by collectors of the Society when soliciting donations. The booklet represents a copy of the Statute of the Society in question "ornamented" by pictures, seals, newspaper cuttings, photographic copies of various certificates, etc., the obvious purpose of which is to disperse possible doubts on the part of prospective donors regarding the bona fides and respectable character of the Society.

It will be seen from this booklet that the Society claims to be either registered with or otherwise known to the following consulates, organizations and institutions:-

1. Registered with the RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS COMMITTEE in 1929 by the late Mr. V. G. Grosse and on 6.9. Mr. Ch. E. Messler.

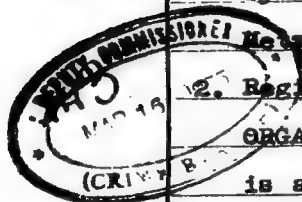
2. Registered with the COUNCIL OF UNITED RUSSIAN PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS AT SHANGHAI (SORO) on 16.10.32. Permission is alleged to have been obtained from that body by the Society on 21.10.32 for the right to collect donations in Shanghai and other cities.

3. Statute of the Society was presented at the BRITISH CONSULATE-GENERAL IN SHANGHAI on 28.11.32.

4. Statute of the Society was presented at the "COMMISSARIATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS" on 29.11.32.

5. Statute of the Society was presented at the AMERICAN CONSULATE-GENERAL IN SHANGHAI on 9.12.32.

6. Statute of the Society was presented at the FRENCH



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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CONSULATE-GENERAL IN SHANGHAI on 21.11.32. Permission to function in the French Concession granted by the French Police on 23.12.32.

7. Statute of the Society was presented at the "HEAD OFFICE OF THE CANTON POLICE" on 2.8.33.

8. Statute of the Society was "communicated to the NANSSEN'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE AT GENEVA" on 20.3.34.

9. By virtue of the fact of the registration of SORO with the Head Office of the Shanghai District of the Kuomintang, the Statute of the Society is alleged to be registered with the CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

As was previously reported the Authorities of the French Concession in July 1933 withdrew from the Society permission to function in the Concession. Mr. Metzler states that in November 1932 he cancelled the registration of the Society with the Russian Emigrants Committee, of which fact he informed the French Consul-General on July 6, 1933. However, no public notice has been issued by Mr. Metzler to that effect.

Enquiries at the British Consulate-General show that there is on file a letter from Mr. V. O. Popoff dated November 28, 1932, in which he informed the Consulate of the existence of the Society. Enclosed was a copy of its Statute. The receipt of that letter was not acknowledged by the Consulate.

Although enquiries at the American Consulate-General and the Shanghai Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have failed to establish definitely the fact of receipt of similar letters from Mr. Popoff, there is every reason to

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believe that he "presented" the statute of his Society both at the Consulate and the Office in the same way as he "presented" it at the British Consulate and that his letters were also ignored.

As regards the Nansen International Office for Refugees, it appears that on March 20, 1934, Mr. Popoff sent to that body a letter enclosing a copy of the statute of his Society, and that in reply he received a copy of the statute of the Nansen International Office sometime during the latter part of 1934.

The Nansen International Office for Refugees, which functions under the authority of the League of Nations, continues the work of Dr. Nansen, League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, who, in 1921, was entrusted by the League with the task of finding a solution of the problem created by the presence in Europe and China of over one million of Russian refugees. In April, 1931, following the death of Dr. Nansen, the office of the High Commissioner was reorganized and has since been known under its present name. Mr. T. E. Johnson is the present Secretary-General of the Office, which is located in Geneva. Mr. H. Cuenod acted as an official representative of the Office in China until his departure for Europe in April 1934, following which Mr. Ch. E. Metaler has been acting as his substitute. The activities of Nansen International Office include collecting of various data regarding conditions of life of Russian and other refugees and rendering assistance to them. The funds of the Office consist of sums assigned for this purpose by

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the League of Nations, proceeds of sale of special Nansen stamps and donations and contributions from the governments of various countries.

Mr. Popoff denies having any knowledge of the existence in Shanghai of a representative of Nansen International Office, and, according to Mr. Metzler, there is nothing in the archives left to him by Mr. Cuenod, to show that the latter in any way assisted Popoff.

The Council of the United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai (SORO) seems to be the only public body with which the Society in question is still registered.

Mr. Kotenev, former President of SORO, was interviewed by the undersigned and shown the booklet referred to above.

He states that registration of any organization with SORO has no significance other than certifying the fact of the existence of such society; that SORO is in no way responsible for the activities of organizations registered with it and has no power of control over them.

Questioned regarding the nature of his "Album of The Far East and Other Places" and the "Golden Book of Wishes," Popoff stated that the album was a purely commercial undertaking: the Society intended to publish a sort of album and offered advertising spaces in it to various firms etc. in return for donations. After publication, the album would be offered for sale, while certain prominent donors would be presented with a copy of the album free of charge; 30% of net proceeds of the publishing of the album would be donated to the Russian Orthodox Confraternity's School and to "invalids." Regarding the "Golden Book of Wishes,"

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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Popoff stated that it contained autographs of various prominent persons, in which they wished success to the Society in the task of publishing the Album. According to Popoff, both books were confiscated from Atlassoff by the authorities in Tientsin in February of the current year.

Apart from donating \$15.00 to the Russian Orthodox Confraternity's School recently Popoff never contributed anything to any other organization. It is of interest to note in this connection that on December 29, 1933, he addressed a letter to the Union of Russian Military Invalids, 10 Rue Massenet, offering them 10% of ^{the} net proceeds of the sale of the Album he intended to publish. The offer was declined. However, it has come to notice of the Union recently that collections of donations and advertisements are going on for an illustrated magazine the proceeds of which, it is alleged, will benefit "old invalid emigrants." Therefore, the Union wrote to the Emigrants Committee stating that they had nothing in common with these collections. Questioned on this point, Popoff admitted that he had 20% of these collections in return for his permission to use the name of his Society.

Enquiries at the Post Office show that Popoff never rented a P.O. Box in the name of his Society or in his own name, or in the name of Atlassoff. There is no evidence to show that the Society used the Post Office for the purpose of soliciting donations. Mr. R. T. Bryan, Municipal Advocate, interviewed by the undersigned regarding the Chinese law on the subject of the abuse of the mails in this way, states that there is no special provision in the

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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Chinese Postal Law covering this point. He is of the opinion that Art. 363 of the C.C.R.C. would be applicable in this case if the constituents of the offence (fraud, false pretences) could be proved.

However, there is no evidence to show that any definitely false claims were made by the collectors of the Society when soliciting donations, although the contents of the booklet referred to above undoubtedly tend to create a false impression regarding the status of the Society.

Mr. Popoff states that should the Shanghai Municipal Police raise any objection to the activities of his Society in the Settlement, he would immediately discontinue them.

A. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

Deputy Commissioner (Special Branch)

D.B. (bribe)

Subject to your agreement I shall give instructions to have the Society warned to discontinue all activities in the Settlement, including the use of an address here for soliciting donations from other places.

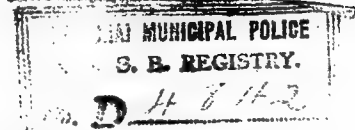
J.P.G.

Yes, I agree.
Prosecution of this
my old man was
desirable if it
can be avoided

for B.
D.C. (CHINESE)
16 MAR 1935

15 MAR 1935

04842
-3



March 5, 1935.

S.2

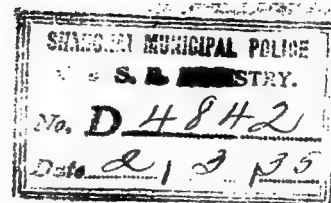
Please continue inquiries and submit a report which will contain answers to the following questions:

1. Is it true that the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants is registered with the Bureau of Foreign Affairs? If so what responsibility does the Bureau for Foreign Affairs assume in connection with the Society and what does the Bureau know of the affairs of the Society?
2. What is the Central Nansen Committee in Geneva operating under the auspices of the League of Nations and through what agency and by what means did the Society of Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants secure registration with it?
3. What is the character of The Golden Book of Wishes and The Album of the Far East and Other Places? Are these books distributed and what claims do they make in regard to the use made of money contributed to the Society?
4. What contributions have been made by the Society for the education of invalids and poor pupils?
5. What evidence exists that the Society has made claims which are definitely false for the purpose of securing contributions from the public?
6. To what extent has the Society used the Post Office for the purpose of soliciting contributions from the public and what is the Chinese law on the subject of the abuse of these mails in this way?

Sgt. Prokofiev.

S. B. 5/3.

J. H. Evans
D.C. (Sp.Br.)



March

1

35.

Ch. Metzler, Esq.,
Chairman,
Russian Emigrants' Committee &
Relief Association,
72 Hongkong Road.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your confidential letter of February 16 regarding the collection of money by a group of individuals who call themselves "Society of Relief to the Russian Very Aged Emigrants in Shanghai", and to thank you for the information it contains. Preliminary inquiries indicate that the character of this organization is open to suspicion and a thorough investigation regarding its activities is now being made.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Commissioner of Police.

D 4x42
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUN. POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY.

File No. 4842
No. D

S. 2, Special Branch, Sub-Branch 3, 135

REPORT

Date March 1, 1935.

Subject Communication dated 16-2-35 from the Russian Emigrants Committee
re: "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants".
Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev. Forwarded by D.R. S.I.

As it was previously reported the so-called "Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants", Chairman V.O. Popoff, has no standing as a charity organization and may be better described as a small group of individuals partly or fully dependent on charity. Distribution among its members of whatever money could be collected by soliciting donations was the only form of activities, in which the Society has been engaged ever since its inception.

Attached herewith are several specimens of letters, which appeared in local English newspapers from time to time and in which Mr. V.O. Popoff on behalf of the Society expressed his thanks to various consuls, firms and individuals for their donations. It is of interest to note that all donors were foreigners other than Russians and that on no occasion was the amount of money donated stated in these letters.

The above activities alone might not have attracted public attention. However, the methods used by the Society for collection of donations, complete absence of public accounts of money received and disbursed, and last but not least, the fact of certain individuals of a very shady reputation being closely connected with the Society, have long ago aroused suspicions as to the bona fides of the above organization. In 1932 as a result of these suspicions the Society was struck off the list of organizations registered with the Russian Emigrants Committee. Since 1933 the Society extended the collection of monetary donations to other cities of China, which marked the beginning of their troubles. In July 1933, as a result of a communication from the French Police, Canton, regarding the undesirable activities in that city of two "representatives" of

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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the Society, A. Atlassoff and V. Konovaloff (criminal records No. 1260 and 861 respectively), the authorities of the French Concession in Shanghai withdrew from the Society the permission to function in the Concession. In a notice issued by the local French Police on February 2, 1935, their objection to the activities of the Society in question was stated in unequivocal terms.

It is known that during the course of the past two years, Atlassoff in his capacity of a "representative" of the Society visited Nanking, Hankow, Peking and Tientsin. His activities in Tientsin during the period from December 1934 to February 1935 attracted the attention of the local Russian Emigrants organization, the President of which wrote to the Russian Emigrants Committee in Shanghai for information. Upon the receipt of the information desired an end was put to the activities of Atlassoff in Tientsin by publishing in the local newspaper "Nasha Zaria" of an article, in which Atlassoff was denounced^a as crook and impostor. He then returned to Shanghai.

Interviewed by the undersigned on February 22 V.O. Popoff stated that his Society had 27 members, of whom 10 were unable to work. He was unable to explain what the remaining 17 members were supposed to do for the Society. Further, he admitted that Atlassoff was a paid agent of the Society his remuneration amounting from 20 to 50% of the total collections. He gave an evasive reply as to the monthly average of donations received and, curiously enough, stated that in result of the activities of the Society the latter owed to him \$246.00.

Popoff is a very old and apparently helpless man. It is possible that a few destitute persons occasionally receive

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assistance from him. On the other hand he is as sly and cunning as he is old and helpless, and there is little room for doubt that, as far as he and his associate Atlassoff are concerned, the business of collecting donations has been a paying one, notwithstanding all obstacles put in their way.

On the whole, the Society for Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants, which, according to Mr. Popoff, is registered with the local Russian organizations and with the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs and is "acknowledged by the Central Nansen Committee in Geneva operating under the auspices of the League of Nations", has all appearances of a typical bogus organization.

Mr. V.O. Popoff is at present residing at House 9, No. 697 Avenue Joffre.

A. Prokofiev

D. S. I.

D. C. (Special Brs.)

Commissioner of Police,
Sir,

Information. Enquiries will be continued and a further report submitted. A draft of the reply to be sent to Mr Metzler is attached herewith.

J. H. Givens

D. C. (Special Brs.)

MAR 1 1935

A RELIEF SOCIETY For Very Aged Emigrants

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Our Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants, headed by the undersigned, wishes to express to all the Foreign donors its most sincere gratitude for the past favours and hopes that the same kind attention and assistance will be given the Society in the future.

Rumours are being spread in Shanghai by some ill-wishers trying to undermine the existence of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants and its good name, to the effect that no such Society exists at all, or that if it existed it was liquidated etc. As a responsible Chairman of this Society I wish to deny all such rumours and to state the following:

Our Society was established in 1929. Its Statute has been registered in accordance with existing regulations by the Russian Emigrants Committee, under the late Mr. V. Grosse, and later confirmed by his successor Mr. Ch. Metzler. It had been also registered with the Council of United Russian Organizations and by the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs. Our Society is also acknowledged by the Central Nansen Committee in Geneva, which operates under the auspices of the League of Nations.

The number of the Society's members is at present—27, among whom 10 are very old and needy. The Society exists on voluntary donations of kind-hearted people understanding the needs of their poor brethren. Though the collection of necessary means is not an easy task the Society was able to give to the aged people some help in money and provisions for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Our Society is carefully watching the needs of the poor and has, therefore, made out of its very limited means a grant for the poor pupils of the Commercial School—\$15.00 handed over to the Director, Mr. Narbut.

I take this opportunity to express in the Society's name our deep gratitude to all donors.

V. POROFF.

Shanghai, Jan. 28.

9344

42

AGED RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS

Editor, THE CHINA PRESS.

Dear Sir:—The Society for the Relief of the Aged Emigrants requests you to place the following letter in your esteemed paper.

The Society for the Relief of the Aged Emigrants hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to the Consul General of Belgium, Mr. Delvaux de Fenffe, the Consul General for Sweden, Mr. E. H. Lindquist, the Consul General of Finland, Mr. A. Salminen, the Nederlandsche Handelsmaatschappij, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and other firms, banks, offices and employees for their donations.

The Society will despatch in the nearest future its representative to other towns and places to collect donations and advertisements for its Album of the Far East, and has full confidence that the benevolent people will come to the aid of the Society and help with all possible gifts to support the poor old emigrants.

Expressing our thanks to the Editor for accepting this letter.

The Chairman of the Society,

V. O. Porow.

Shanghai, October 2, 1934.

Letters To The Editor

Communications intended for publication in this column must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender, as a guarantee of good faith.

THANKS EXPRESSED

Editor,

THE SHANGHAI SUNDAY TIMES

Sir,—The Society for the Relief of the Very Aged Emigrants at Shanghai hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to all persons, foreigners as well as Chinese citizens, for their sympathy with our Society, for their donations, gifts and assistance.

The Society has full confidence that in the future the benevolent people will not leave us without their attention. All collections of donations and other affairs have been authorized to Mr. A. G. At-
lason.

Members of our Society are former officers of military and civil ranks of over 70 and 80 years, already for five years under the chairmanship, of V. Popoff (80 years of age).

Honorary Members of our Society are: Archimandrite of the Russian Orthodox Church at Shanghai, Makary; Major General A. Isakoff, Head of the Monarchistic Society "Zar and People"; and many other prominent people of Shanghai.

The Society thanks very much the Editor of "The Shanghai Times" for printing the Society's letters in his esteemed paper.

V. POPOFF,

Chairman of the Society.

N. VARSHEMOFF,

Secretary.

Shanghai, June 30, 1934.

Translation of a notice which appeared in the Russian newspaper in Tientsin entitled "NASHA ZARIA" on February 6, 1935.

"The Golden book of wishes" and "The album of the Far East & other places", published by the Shanghai Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants, which is recognized by the Chinese Government and by the Nansen International Committee (functioning under the protection of the League of Nations) have now acquired a dignified and legal appearance and are ornamented by various portraits and best wishes of foreign consuls, various societies, firms, institutions and other prominent persons: Bishop Victor, Head of the Russian Orthodox Mission in China, Bishop John of Shanghai, Lieut. General Horvath, Head of Russian Emigrants in the Far East, etc...

In accordance with resolution of a general meeting 30% of net profit will be given to our invalids and poor pupils of the Russian Commercial School in Shanghai.

Collections of advertisements and wishes will be organized in many cities of China, as well as in Siam, India and other places while a branch of the Society will be opened in one of the cities.

Representative of the Shanghai Society for Relief to Very Aged Emigrants.

(Signed) A. Atlassoff,

Tientsin.

Translation of extract from article which appeared in the
Tientsin newspaper entitled "NASHA ZARIA" in February, 1935.

The reply of the Russian Emigrants' Committee, referring to the official notice issued by the authorities of the French Concession in Shanghai, expose^s in detail the unsavoury activities of Messrs. Atlassoff & Co., who speculate on credibility of both Russians and foreigners, exploit the name of Russian aged emigrants and the authority of the Nansen Committee and the League of Nations.

It is expected that an end will be put to the activities of Mr. Atlassoff in Tientsin and that all exotic albums in his possession will be confiscated in order that he could not bether kind-hearted people any longer and obtain money from them by means of deceit. No ridiculous references to the League of Nations and the Nansen Committee will help Atlassoff in avoiding punishment, which is awaiting him.

Translator's note: The article of the "Nasha Zaria" referred to above was reprinted in the "Shanghai Zaria" of February 24, 1935.

俄
僑
普
濟
會

РУССКИЙ ЭМИГРАНТСКИЙ КОМИТЕТЪ
и
ОБЩЕСТВО „ПОМОЩЬ“

MUNICIPAL
S. E. REGISTRY

4842

18 1 2 185

Russian Emigrants' Committee and Relief Association

72, HONGKONG ROAD.
GROUND FLOOR, ROOMS 13, 14 & 15.
TEL. 16106

Шанхай, 16 February 1935
Shanghai,

Confidential.

F.W.Gerard, Esquire,
Commissioner Police Force,
S.M.C.

Dear Sir,

I am informed that lately two or three young Russian Emigrants are going around the town collecting money on behalf of the Society for Relief of the very aged Russian Emigrants at Shanghai. I also received a letter from the Chairman of the Russian National Association at Tientsin dated 7th February 1935 informing me that a certain Russian Emigrant Atlassoff arrived at Tientsin in December 1934 as a Representative of the above Society and started there a collection of money. The Chairman of the Russian National Association at Tientsin is asking me for information in regard to the above-named Atlassoff.

The Russian Emigrant Atlassoff is very well known to the Settlement Police.

In regard to the Society in question the existence of which is banned in the French Concession of Shanghai I may state for your information the following.

The Statute of the Society for Relief of the very aged Russian Emigrants was certified by my Committee on 6th September 1932.

During the first month after the certificate was issued the Society did not adhere to the stipulations of the Statute and the activities of the Society could not be considered as desirable one and were conducted in an intolerable way.

In view of the above I cancelled the Certificate issued to the Society and struck off the Society from the registration list with my Committee.

I have the honour to be,
Dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,

(Ch. Metzler)
Chairman.

S.S. Prokopyev 18/1/35

S2, for inquiry
and report early
please. J.H.

SC 100
for dispatch answer
4 copies please
1/9

9971

ORIGINAL PAGE

RECEIVED

48421

71-2 135

THE CHINA PRESS, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1935

Society For Relief Of Aged Russians Frowned On By Police

Charity organizations which are allegedly run for other objects are not permitted to operate in the French Concession, the French Municipal Police explained yesterday in connection with the Society for the Relief of Aged Emigre Russians. A translation of a notice issued yesterday by the French police authorities follows:

"For several days past there have appeared in the Russian press (and in other papers) several open letters signed by Mr. Y. Ponomarev, president of the Society for the Relief of Aged Emigre Russians.

"For the benefit of the public, the authorities of the French Concession wishes to reveal the true character of the organization.

"The Society for the Relief of Aged Emigre Russians was authorized to operate in the French Concession in December of 1932. Later it was revealed that the object of the association did not correspond to the aims of an organization of public interest. The authorization of the organization to function in the French Concession was therefore withdrawn after a thorough investigation by the French authorities."

S2
JMS

FLC

813 Reg.

Noted & passed.

SRK 772

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D 4842

Date 25 / 10 / 34

Editor, THE CHINA PRESS.

Sir:—We hereby request you to place the following letter in your esteemed paper.

The Society for the Relief of the very aged Emigrants sincerely thanks Ming-ton Ltd., E. Maerck Chemical Co., Engineer A. Corrit, Chien Hsin Engineering Co., Ltd., Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co., Compagnie Franco-Africaine Ltd., Sir Elly Kadocrie & Sons and other firms offices and employees for their donations made.

The Society hereby informs, that its representative, A. G. Atlasoff has finished collections here at Shanghai, and will in the next days leave for other towns in order to collect donations, advertisements and announces for the Edition of the Society "Album of the Far East" and other places.

The revenue of the said Edition, as already has been mentioned before in the papers, is destined for needs of the Emigrant poor scholars and Invalids.

The Society has confidence that Government, Commercial Institutions and private people will come to the aid of the poor members of the Society.

The Chairman of the Society:

signed V. POPOFF
Secretary.

signed N. VARSHAMOFF.

After 2 years of working for the Society of the aged Emigrants, and before leaving temporarily Shanghai, I hereby express my sincere gratitude to all donors for their attention, wishing them every success.

Representative of the Society:

signed A. ATLASOFF.

Shanghai, October 24, 1934.

File
gms.

✓

(P. 331.)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. D. REGISTRY.
No. D 4842
Date 7 / 11 / 1933

G.



R.

No. C.I.D. 1688/1933,

NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER

POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG.

8th November, 1933.

Sir,

REF. YOUR LETTER No.D.4842.
I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks,

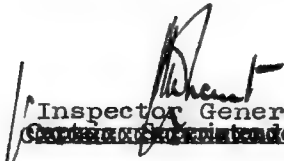
the receipt of your letter of 2nd November, 1933, with photographs,

the contents of which have been noted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Inspector General of Police.
~~Commandant of the Shanghai Municipal Police~~

The Commissioner of Police,
Shanghai Municipal Council,

SHANGHAI.



November

2

33.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter
No. C.I.D. 1688/1933 of October 24, 1933, and in reply,
to forward herewith the photographs of Alexander
Atlassoff and Vasili Konovaloff.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) F. W. L. L. L.

Commissioner of Police.

The Inspector-General of Police,
Hongkong.

JHS

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai, November 1, 1933
To P.A. (Crime)

Please let me have one copy
of each of the photographs of
Alexander Atlasoff and Vasili
Konovaloff (criminal cards No 1260
and No 861 respectively).

J. G. Lewis

Officer i/o Special
Branch.

C. 2.

please attach

Officer i/c. S.D.

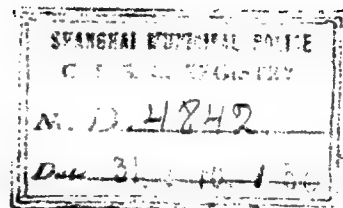
2 copies attached please

J. G. Lewis 2/11/33

G.



R.



No. C.I.D. 1688/1933.
NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
LHVB:KC. TO THIS LETTER.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG.**

24th October 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter
No.D. 4842, with enclosures, of the 16th October 1933,
and to express to you my best thanks for the information
contained therein.

It would be of great value to this Department
if a photograph of Alexander Atlassoff and Vasili
Konovaloff could be supplied.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


p. Inspector General of Police.

The Commissioner of Police,
The Shanghai Municipal Police,
SHANGHAI.

*S2, For attention please
JMS*

4842
7.10.33

Shanghai, October 16, 3.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.C.I.D. 1688/33 of October 2, 1933, I have the honour to state that the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants was founded in 1929 and was at first registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, No.6a Hongkong Road. In September 1932, the Society severed connection with this Committee and registered with the Council of United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai.

The Society has no standing as a charity organization and may be better described as a group dependent on charity. V. O. Popoff, the Chairman, is a person given to drink, while Atlassoff and Konovaloff, the two persons who have been entrusted with the collection of donations, have criminal records, copies of which are attached.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) F. W. Collett
Commissioner of Police.

The Inspector-General of Police,
Hongkong.

G.



R.

No. C.I.D.1688/33.
NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE

LHVB:KC. TO THIS LETTER.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG.**

2nd October 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter received by this department, and I would be much obliged if you would kindly inform me if the bona fides of the Society mentioned, are above reproach.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. H. B. Smith
p. Inspector General of Police.

*AC (SpB-)
Kindly draft reply*

Wm. B. ...
D. C. (CRIME)
9 OCT 1933

The Deputy Commissioner (Crime),

The Shanghai Municipal Police,

SHANGHAI.

*Mr T. For attention please
drafted
13/10*

MB
OCT 11 1933

Copy

Society for the Relief of
Very Aged Emigrants.

Shanghai Avenue Joffre 967.

23rd September 33.

To the Chief of the Hong Kong Police.

HONG KONG.

Dear Sir,

In the next future our representative, Mr. A. Atlasoff on his trip to South China will have the pleasure of visiting your city, and therefore our Society kindly request you to allow him to collect donations for the benefit of our aged emigrants, who with the coming winter season are in great need of assistance.

Our Society guarantees for Mr. A. Atlasoff's solidity, in political as well as in any other respect.

Expressing to you in advance our sincere gratitude,

We are, dear Sir,

President of the Society

(Sgd.) V. Popoff.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File NO. REGISTRY
No. D 4842
SECTION 2 Canton.
Date May 15 1933
May 11 1933

Subject (in full) Inquiry from French Police, Canton, re A.G. Atlassoff and V.G.

Konovaloff - collectors of donations on behalf of the Society for Relief to the Very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai

Made by D.S. Prokofiev

Forwarded by

S. Kh. S. 1.

With reference to the memo of the Officer i/c Special Branch dated May 9, 1933 on the subject of the attached file (D. 4842), enquiries at the French Police Headquarters show that they have not received any letter from the French Police, Canton, regarding the activities of A.G. Atlassoff and V.G. Konovaloff, and that, therefore, no action has been taken in connection with this matter.

A. Prokofiev

D.S.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

Db. (brine)

Information. I have not passed the report to Canton. The Canton people apparently expect to get their information from the United Russian organizations, and sent the copy Bue as information.

Y. L. S. 1933

O. i/c Sp. Br.
MAY 11 1933



File

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

MUNICIPAL
B. REGISTER

File No. 42

Special Branch 6. Station 3

REPORT

Date May 6, 1933.

Subject (in full) Inquiry from French Police, Canton, re A.G. Atlassoff and V.G. Konovaloff - collectors of donations on behalf of the "Society for Relief to the very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai".

Made by D.S. Prokofiev

Forwarded by J.B.K. 41

With reference to the letter dated April 25, 1933 from the French Police, Canton, on the subject of A.G. Atlassoff and V.G. Konovaloff - collectors of donations on behalf of the "Society for Relief to the very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai", I have to state the following:-

The society in question was founded in 1929 and was first registered with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, No. 6-A Hongkong Road. In September 1932, however, it severed its connections with that body and registered with the "Council of United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai".

"The Society for Relief to the very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai" has no standing as a charity organization and may be better described as a group of about 15 persons dependent on charity. V.O. Popoff, chairman of the society, has the reputation of being a man given to drinking. The fact of his having entrusted the task of collecting donations on behalf of the society to Atlassoff and Konovaloff - well known crooks (vide attached copies of their criminal records) - is also very significant.

Following the registration of the society with the Council of United Russian Public Organizations at Shanghai, Popoff obtained the following document from that body:-

To whom it may concern

This is to certify that at the meeting of the Society for Relief to the very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai held on August 5, 1932 it was unanimously decided that collecting of monetary donations and other contributions for the benefit of the Society already carried in Shanghai, is to be extended to other places in China.

Shanghai, October 21, 1932.

File 226.

(Signed) A. M. Kotenev
Chairman.

At the same time on application of Popoff the Council

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

Station, _____
Date _____ 19

Subject (in full) _____ - 2 -

Made by _____ Forwarded by _____

United Russian Public Organizations issued a certificate to A.G. Atlassoff to the effect that the latter ~~was~~ was a duly registered Russian emigrant and was authorized by the Society for the Relief to the very Aged Russian Emigrants in Shanghai to collect donations on behalf of the society in Shanghai and other cities in China.

In February 1933 Atlassoff made an unsuccessful attempt to have this document endorsed by the Commissioner of the Shanghai Municipal Police to the effect that the Police have no objection to these collections. On that occasion Atlassoff admitted that he was a paid agent of the Society.

According to our information the Council of United Russian Public Organizations in Shanghai upon the receipt of the attached letter from the French Police, Canton, intended to request Popoff that the certificate issued to Atlassoff be cancelled.

A. Prokizew

D. S.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

D.L. (bring)

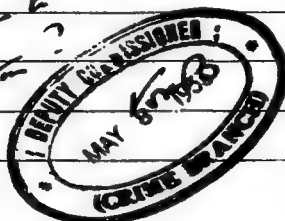
Information.

*Seen.
Are you going
reput to Police
Canton?*

J.H. Givens

O. i/c Sp. Br.

MAY 6 1933



CRIMINAL RECORD OF ALEXANDER ATLASOFF

NAME: ATLASOFF, Alexander NATIVE: RUSSIAN CRIMINAL CARD NO.1260.

Larceny	2 months	19.12.28.	C.
	Released on remission of sentence	8.2.29.	
Shoplifting (2 counts)	3 months	25.2.30.	C.
	plus 10 days remission.		
		M.O. No. 195/32.	

CRIMINAL RECORD OF VASILI KONOVALOFF

NAME: KONOVALOFF, Vasili NATIVE: RUSSIAN CRIMINAL CARD NO. 861.

Shoplifting	3 weeks	26.8.26.	C.
Receiving stolen property.	Charge withdrawn.	25.7.27.	H.
Threats of armed violence.	Charge withdrawn and Released.	19.7.29.	Fr.
Fraud (3 counts)	3 months & \$300. or 100 days. And to pay S'hai Race Club \$200. & Ladows Tavern \$29.00.	29.5.30.	C.
	Released	25.8.30.	
Larceny	9 months & expelled	17.11.30.	French
Pocket Picking	Not guilty. To furnish \$500 shop security pending appeal.	28.10.31.	C.
	Police waive right of appeal, security cancelled.	5.11.31.	
Shoplifting	1 year & 6 months imprisonment including Recidive.	24.12.31.	
Appeal Court	Appeal dismissed	6.4.32.	
	Released	17.2.33.	

N-C-N.

AGED EMIGRANTS

Society's Thanks

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The Society for the relief to the very aged emigrants (Chairman Popoff) expresses its sincere gratitude to all foreigners, foreign Consuls, firms, banks, offices and office employees, the Chinese Customs, the Post and Telegraph, Hai-Alai; the firms Sincere, Wing on and Sun-Sun, The Union Brewery Ltd, The American Securities Corporation, The New Engineering and Shipbuilding Works, The Commercial Express and Storage, Knipschildt & Eskelund and others for their donations.

The Society trusts that in the future the benevolent people at Shanghai and other cities will not leave without attention these old emigrants of over 60-70 years of age of former high Military and Civil ranks.

Chairman: POPOFF

Society for Relief of Aged
Emigrants

Shanghai, Mar. 28, 1933.

TRANSLATION.

French Police.
Canton.

Copy to Commissioner of Police
of the International Settlement,
Shanghai.

To Mr. Shendrikoff,

President of the United Russian Organizations,
Shanghai.

Dear Sir,

On April 25, 1933 the French Municipal Police of Canton arrested in the French Concession of Shameen two Russian emigrants, who were collecting funds for the committee of Russian Aged of Shanghai.

As identification they showed their passports issued in Shanghai in the names of Alexander Georgievitch Atlassoff and Vasili Georgievitch Konovaloff as well as the following documents:-

- 1) That Mr. Atlassoff is the chief collector on behalf of the Committee for the Aged of Shanghai signed by the President of the Committee-one Mr. Popoff.
- 2) That Mr. Konovaloff is secretary and interpreter to Mr. Atlassoff, as well as a collector.

In view of the fact that Mr. V.G. Konovaloff is known in Shanghai as a thief (recidive) and recently served an 8 months' sentence in Shanghai, which he admitted himself, and as the chief collector Atlassoff is also, according to information to hand by Police, a non-trustworthy person, the French Police request the following information in writing:-

- 1) Are Konovaloff and Atlassoff collectors on behalf of the Committee for the Aged of Shanghai?
- 2) Is it correct that the above mentioned persons have been delegated to Canton by the President of this Society named Mr. Popoff to collect such funds.

This letter is being addressed to you in view of the fact that the Statutes of the Society, which was found in possession of these persons, have been registered with the United Russian Organizations, by Mr. M. Afanassieff, Secretary of the said Society (United Russian Organizations) on October 16, 1932.

Enclosed please find for perusal 3 certificates numbered 1, 2 and 3 which please return as soon as possible under registered cover, as all the documents found on the above persons have been retained by the French Municipal Police.

Yours faithfully,

Sgd. ~~S.D. Prokopoff~~ Sergeant of the
French Municipal Police of Canton.

True copy:

Sgd. Prokopoff

April 25, 1933

Canton.

P.S. Original accompanied by 3 certificates Nos. 1, 2 & 3 and addressed to Mr. Shendrikoff, President of the United Russian Organizations.

2

Date July 18, 1938.

4842

18 7 38

(Special Branch) Office Notes
Commissioner.

Sir,

Reference attached reports, this is the man against whom General Macnaghten complained of begging. I think that the warning he has received plus confiscation of his begging propaganda, seals, documents, etc. should have the desired effect. Some of the tricks of his trade border on fraud and he has been made to understand that the present case has been marked up against him and may be reopened should he attempt to resume his begging activities.



John Robertson

D. C. (Special Branch)

16^{го} июля 1988г.

Я ниже подписавший Николай
Николаевич Спенсера, проживающий
по адресу Урсфорт 684/1. Являюсь
обязанным 15^{го} июля 9. Пономинер
Наталия Николаевна (Васильева, Ольга)
прикрытием сего письма кедким сборам
подготовленным в пользу О.В. Павлова
Председателя Заключенных, а
также кедким другим сборам
подобного характера, в доказательстве
исполнения моих обязательств, добровольно
здал? Сметенектору Прокопьеву
следующие документы и вещи:
Актосвущий к деятельности сего
уполномоченного О.В. которое находится
в своем распоряжении: Перечис:
2 Книжки разных документов без
отписок: 1/2/ 1 Книга Протоколов
Всех уполномоченного О.В. 1/3/ Книжки
дяд. Сборам подготовленным, в числе 3 записки
1/3/ 3 шт. Метри О.В. Я предпринял
здесь? Наталия Николаевна Пономинер, это
в случае моего свободного назначения

снего и не только, но и
Полный Бюджет для Закона
и не только, но и Закон
делу.

16^{го} июля 1938г.

Иванов Иван Иванович
Полный

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

Section 1, Special Branch *8/14/38*

REPORT

Date July 13, 1938

Subject *fraudulent activities of N.N. Stepanoff, self-styled collector of donations on behalf of the "Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants".*

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev. Forwarded by *C. Crawford D.I.*

*See
Rec D 8150*

N.N. STEPANOFF, Russian, who is mentioned in the attached communication from General E.B. Macnaghten dated June 28, 1938, was interviewed on the 1-st of July at Headquarters. Asked if he was engaged in collections of donations in the Settlement on behalf of any organization, Stepanoff stated that he had visited several offices in the Settlement recently for the purpose of soliciting donations for the so-called "Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants". He claimed to be the Secretary of the said Society, as well, a collector of donations on their behalf on a commission basis (20%). On being told that in July, 1937 V.O. POPOFF, Chairman of the Society, was ordered by the Police to discontinue his begging activities both in the Settlement and French Concession, Stepanoff at first pretended being unaware of this, but soon changed his attitude and explained his collections by the necessity of paying off a debt of \$ 110.00 incurred by the Society in April, 1937. As a proof of this he produced a receipt for the above sum made out in the name of Mrs M. Olsen and signed by V.O. Popoff and himself. Evidently with a view to make this story more convincing he also produced a note dated May 10, 1938 signed by V.O. Popoff, in which the latter certifies the fact of the existence of the said debt and explains the reasons why the receipt is in the possession of Stepanoff. Further Stepanoff stated that he had been authorised by V.O. Popoff to make the collections in question and that an account regarding the results of these collections had been rendered by him to V.O. Popoff, following which the sum collected (\$ 27.00) had been, by a mutual agreement between them, retained by Stepanoff with a view to handing the money to Mrs Olsen who is in Hongkong at present (Appendix "A").

On instructions of the D.C. (Special Branch) Ste-

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.....

REPORT

.....Station,

Date.....19

Subject.....

-2-

Made by.....Forwarded by.....

panoff was told to call again on July 3 and to bring with him accounts relating to his collections. Immediately after his departure the undersigned was instructed to proceed to House 14, Lane 50 Ward Road, the residence of V.O. Popoff, and to interview the latter before Stepanoff had a chance of communicating with him.

In the presence of D.S. Suhoff (Wayside) Popoff stated that upon being warned by the Police to discontinue his begging activities in the Settlement he had resigned from the post of Chairman of the Society in question and had since nothing whatever to do with it. According to him, he did not authorise anyone to make collections for the Society, nor did he receive any money or accounts from Stepanoff recently. All documents, he stated, relating to the past activities of the Society, including accounts, had been burned by him. Inter alia, Popoff mentioned that he knew from Stepanoff, who had called on him some time ago, that the latter was in trouble in connection with his recent begging activities, but that he did not ask Stepanoff about the exact nature of the trouble. Pleading indisposition, Popoff (a man about 35 years of age) refused to make a formal statement then and there, but promised to let the undersigned have his statement through D.S. Suhoff as soon as practicable. On July 4 his note (attached under Appendix "B") was received from the said detective. It would appear from this note that Popoff did his best in order to help Stepanoff without implicating himself.

On July 3 Stepanoff called at this office bringing with him a quantity of documents relating to the past activities of the Society. However, there was nothing among these documents in the nature of accounts. Questioned on this point, Stepanoff reiterated his previous statement that all accounts had been handed over to

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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Made by Forwarded by

Popoff, but that the latter had burned them. This is in perfect keeping with the past fraudulent activities of Stepanoff and his associates, as never ^{had} any accounts of money collected and disbursed ~~been~~ published by the Society in question.

During the course of the interrogation Stepanoff admitted that some time ago there had been an incident in connection with his begging activities, namely, that a certain Mr. Edwards, whom he approached for a donation, had taken away from him his documents, after having communicated with the Russian Emigrants' Committee.

On July 7 Mr. E. Edwards was located at 410 Szechuen Road. He confirmed the story told by Stepanoff and handed over to the undersigned against receipt (a) one subscription book, (b) one name card of N.N. Stepanoff, (c) one certificate from SORO and (d) one begging letter signed by a certain DIDENKO - which he had taken away from Stepanoff some time in May or June (Vide Appendix "C").

On the same date Mr. E. Kasachkoff, 149 Szechuen Road, whose signature and stamp appear among the entries of the said subscription book, was visited by the undersigned. He recognized the stamp of his firm and his signature, but stated that the amount actually subscribed by him was \$ 3.00 and not \$ 15.00 as is shown in the book. In proof of his statement he produced a receipt for \$3.00 dated 6-5-38 and signed by Stepanoff. (Appendix "D"). A closer examination of the subscription book revealed that the original entry made by Mr. Kasachkoff had been altered. It also appears that there are other false entries in the book in question, the object of the trick being to impress favourably the genuine donors and to secure more substantial sub-

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Made by..... Forwarded by.....

scriptions from them. This provides a good explanation of the complete absence of any accounts relating to the begging activities of the Society.

N.F. DIDENKO, whose signature in the capacity of Acting Chairman of the Society appears on the begging letter confiscated by Mr. Edwards, was located at 324 Rue Tenant de la Tour. On July 12 he was interviewed at Headquarters and made a statement (Appendix "E") in which he denied having signed any begging letters since June, 1937 and declared the signature in question to be false.

To sum up: (1) Whatever the part played by V.O. Popoff in this affair might have been, there is no evidence against him. (2) F.I. Didenko does not appear to have anything to do with the unauthorised collections of donations by Stepanoff (3) From the document attached under Appendix "F" it appears and enquiries at SORO confirm that the "Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants" is still on the list of organizations affiliated to SORO. However, no matter what views, ^{the} Chairman of SORO may have on this subject, the Society cannot function in the Settlement, as it is not registered with the Municipal Police. (4) Statement made by Didenko provides tangible evidence of fraud committed by Stepanoff.

Messrs E. Edwards and E. Kasachkoff informed the undersigned verbally that, should it be necessary, they are prepared to come forward as witnesses.

A. Prokopenko
D. S. I.

285.
47.
P. A. to D. C. (S. Br.)

D. C. (Special Branch)

APPENDIX "A"

Translation of a statement made by N.N. STEPANOFF
on July 3, 1938.

On May 10, 1938 Mr. V.O. Popoff, Chairman of the Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants, residing at House 16, Lane 50 Ward Road, on my personal request authorized me, the undersigned, as a former collector of donations on behalf of the said Society, to make collections of donations in the Settlement in order to cover a debt of \$ 110.00, which sum was borrowed by the Society from Mrs. Olsen against my and Mr. Popoff's joint receipt.

Between June 4 and June 9 I visited various offices in the Settlement for the purpose of making the said collections. Altogether I collected \$ 27.00 using one subscription list signed by Mr. Didenko, Chairman of the Society. On June 9 an account was given to Mr. Popoff regarding the results of the collections and by a mutual agreement I retained I retained the money collected with a view to handing it over to Mrs Olsen who at present resides in Hongkong. Apart from this I did not make any collections.

July 3, 1938

Shanghai Municipal Police Headquarters.

(Signed): N.N. Stepanoff

684 Avenue Joffre, Room 3.

S O C I E T Y
FOR THE RELIEF OF VERY AGED EMIGRANTS
Registered at the Shanghai Branch of Kuomintang Party
No. 24

April 21, 1937

Shanghai, address: 136 Muirhead Rd

RECEIPT.

We, the undersigned, Vladimir Osipovich POPOFF and Nikolai Nikolaevich STEPANOFF, Chairman and Deputy Chairman, respectively, of the Governing Board, issued this receipt to Mrs Maria Nikolaevna OLSEN to the effect that we undertake to pay her the sum of \$ 110.00 not later than July 15, 1937 without any arguments. In addition we state that our Society is registered with SORO and approved by the Kuomintang Party.

Signed: Vladimir Osipovich POPOFF (chop)

Signed: Nikolai Nikolevich STEPANOFF (chop)

Chinese chop
of Society for the
Relief of Very Aged Emi-
grants

Stamp
of the Society for the
Relief of Very Aged Emi-
grants.

Translation from Russian

On personal request of Mr. N.N. Stepanoff, former collector of donations on behalf of the Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants, and in my capacity of a former Chairman of said Society, I hereby certify that the receipt for \$ 100 issued by Mr. Stepanoff and myself on behalf of the Society to Mrs M. Olsen, which is in the possession of Mr. Stepanoff, has the force of a valid document and that no payment has been made of the sum mentioned in this document. The fact that this document is in the possession of Mr. Stepanoff is explained solely by great confidence Mrs Olsen as well as the former Society had in Mr. Stepanoff.

(Signed): V.O. Popoff
former Chairman of the Society

May 10, 1938

Shanghai.

10 Мая 1938 г. Г. В. О. Попов Председатель
Обществ. Помощи Эмигрантам, про-
звещающий на Висланде по Вару-
роду № 30 к. 16. Уполномоченный Манд
шуре представляющий И. И. Рогачеву
как Сиб. сборщика пожертвований
на Висланде О. В. 170 м. м. м. м.
Крестов, производимый сборы на
Семейный на покрывающий
доля О. В. в сумме 116 р. 40 копеек
от 1-й О. В. 21-го Апрель 37 г.,
подпись и 7-й Попов расписал.
Одновременно сборы в производил - в
разных адресах на Семейный
с 4-го июня по 9-го июля. Всего м. м. м.
собрано 27 р. 40 копеек по сумме подписки
сумму за подписку Председателя
О. В. Рогачева. Остаток по сбору Г. В.
Попову был дан 9-го июля, при
чем по соглашению с кем собраны
суммы остались у меня для
передачи М. В. О. В. 21-го, которая

производит в настоящее время в
г. Гомеле. Бумага массой и цвета
сбавов и прозвучивает

3^{го} июля 1938 г.
Левое Гирольду Артуровичу Кошкин,
в Мемор. У. Стендерова
Левое Усодра.
684. К. 3.

Translation from Russian

to Sub-Inspector Prokofiev,
Shanghai Municipal Police.

Information.

In reply to the questions you asked me in the presence of Mr. Suhoff regarding the former Society for the Relief of Very Aged Emigrants, of which I was the chairman for many years, I have the honour to state the following:-

If my memory of an old man does not fail me, long time ago - I do not remember the exact date - I signed at the Municipal Police Headquarters a bond to the effect that the collections of voluntary donations in the Settlement by the Society would be discontinued. At the same time the Society obtained from the Kuomintang permission to collect donations in Shanghai, without any mention being made of the Settlement.

Subsequently, in view of the unfavourable attitude towards me of the Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee who treats the Society in a cavillous and unlawful manner, I decided to resign from the post of Chairman and immediately called a general meeting of the Society which was the last one held in the premises of SORO. During the course of that meeting I announced my decision to leave the Society and recommended Mr. Didenko as my successor. The meeting then terminated and no protocol was made of the proceedings. As far as I can remember, since that time I did not take any steps on behalf of the Society and did not authorise any collections. Actually, however, the Society was not closed by any authorities during the time of my chairmanship, and the activities of the Society were not discontinued. The Society may still be existing at present, but I have no knowledge about it. Besides, I am not interested to know, as the illness which resulted from the shot fired at me by a Japa-

nese, keeps me busy.

Two or three weeks ago - I do not remember exactly - N.N. Stepanoff, former collector of donations, visited me and told me that he had been making collections of donations in order to cover the debt of \$100.00, which sum was borrowed for the Society against our joint receipt. He also told me that in the first building he visited his documents had been taken away from him. What kind of documents, I do not know. It appears that there was a paper among them signed by Didenko. As this business did not concern me, I did not ask for details. I did not receive any money from Stepanoff recently, and he has no proof to the contrary.

(Signed): Vladimir Osipovich POPOFF.

July 2, 1938

Shanghai.

Translation from Russian

E. KASACHKOFF

Importers of woollen piece goods

149 Szechuen Road, R.140/1

Shanghai.

July 7, 1938
Shanghai.

Mr. A.A. Prokofiev
Shanghai.

Dear Sir,

Having acquainted ourselves with the subscription list for collection of donations for the Society for the Relief to Very Aged Russian Emigrants, which you have shown to us, we hereby declare that the entry appearing on the list in question to the effect that our firm donated \$ 15.00 is not correct, as the sum actually donated was \$ 3.00 only. This can be confirmed by a receipt in our possession issued on behalf of the said Society and signed by Mr. Stepanoff, the collector.

In conclusion we wish to point out that we were making donations for the said Society regularly during the past several years, the amount being \$ 3.00 per mensem. In no case our donations exceeded or were less than this sum.

We are etc....

(Signed) E. Kasachkoff

美
綸
洋
行

BRANCHES:
HARBIN
TIENTSIN
DAIREN
TOKYO
SHANGHAI

E. KASACHKOFF
IMPORTERS OF WOOLLEN PIECE GOODS
149, SZECHUEN ROAD, ROOM 140/141
SHANGHAI.

CABLE ADDRESS:
KASACHKOFF
CODE:
BENTLEY'S
TEL. 13240

電上海
話四川
路二四
四〇九
號

Шанхай, Июль 7-го дня 1938 г.

Господину А. А. Прокофьеву,
Шанхай.

Милостивый Государь,

Ознакомившись с пред, явленным Вами нам подписным листом произведенных пожертвований в пользу Общества Помощи Престарелым Русским Эмигрантам, настоящим заявляем, что упомянутое в упомянутом листе пожертвование, произведенное от имени нашей фирмы, в сумме Дол. 15.- не соответствует действительности, так как в данном случае нами было пожертвовано фактически лишь Дол. 3.-, в подтверждение чего у нас имеется квитанция названного общества за подписью оберника г-на Степанова.

В заключение считаем нужным отметить, что в пользу вышеупомянутого общества нами производились пожертвования в течение нескольких лет регулярными ежемесячными взносами, в сумме Дол. 3.- и не было ни одного случая, чтобы наши взносы превышали эту сумму или были меньше этой суммы.

С совершенным почтением,

Manis

Translation from Russian

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT OF POLICE INVESTIGATIONS.

The following is the statement of.....
 native of.....taken by me.....
 at.....on the.....and interpreted by.....

Statement of R.I. DIDENKO

On July 12, 1938 I, the undersigned, Fedor Ivanovich DIDENKO, Russian emigrant, 68 years of age, residing at No 324 Route Tenant de la Tour and at present employed as a night watchman in Rue Lafayette, questioned by Sub-Inspector Prokofiev of the Shanghai Municipal Police regarding the collections of donations for the Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants, made the following statement:-

During the past several years I was a member of the Society for the Relief to Very Aged Emigrants, of which Mr. V.O. POPOFF was always the Chairman. On May 30, 1937 during the course of a general meeting of members of the Society which took place in the premises of SORO, 8 Avenue Dubail, Popoff for various reasons resigned from the post of Chairman, following which I was elected his successor.

Two or three days after that meeting, at the request of Mr. N.M. STEPANOFF, Secretary of the Society, I signed 15 copies of an appeal in the English language for the purpose of collecting donations for the Society. Approximately at the same time I demanded from Popoff to hand over to me all documents and seals of the Society. Popoff replied that he would do so in about a fortnight's time. On the expiration of this period I again approached Popoff in connection with this matter, but was referred by him to Stepanoff, in whose possession, according to Popoff, the seals were. Stepanoff, however, told me that he would not hand over to me the seals until he recovered his own money which he had spent for ordering the seal and for various other matters in connection with the organization of the Society. I then declared to Stepanoff

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT OF POLICE INVESTIGATIONS.

The following is the statement of _____ -2-
native of _____ taken by me _____
at _____ on the _____ and interpreted by _____

that I would not sign any papers in future. Soon afterwards a notice appeared in the newspapers to the effect that that the activities of the Society had been forbidden in the French Concession. From that time I had nothing whatever to do with the Society and I consider that it ceased to exist from that time.

On the 3-rd or 4-th day of July, 1938 Stepanoff came to see me at the place of my employment and asked me to sign a document written by him. He explained that recently he was engaged in collection of donations on behalf of the Society and that the total sum collected was \$ 127.50. According to him, he had handed the money to Popoff, which fact he wanted me to confirm by my signature. On my question as to who signed the document on the strength of which he made his collections Stepanoff^P relied that the document bore my signature. I said that I did not sign any documents since the time the Society was banned. Stepanoff then replied to the effect that this was of no importance and that the whole business was a trifle. I flatly refused to sign any papers and also to participate in any way in the affairs of Stepanoff. Since that time I have not seen him any more.

About May 10, 1938 when I was ill at the General Hospital I was visited by Popoff's nephew named Yakov Yakovlevich (I do not know his surname) who resides together with Popoff. He told me that shortly before Stepanoff called on Popoff and persistently requested ~~the~~ the latter to help him out of a trouble he had in connection with his collections of donations.

Having examined the document in the English language dated May 6, 1938, No 75, which was shown to me by Sub-Inspector Prokofiev to-day, I hereby declare that the signature appearing on

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT OF POLICE INVESTIGATIONS.

- 3 -

The following is the statement of.....

native of.....taken by me.....

at.....on the.....and interpreted by.....

this document is not mine and that I never saw the document before. I also declare that I never received any money from Stepanoff.

The above statement was read over to me by Sub-Inspector Prokofiev and I found it to be correct. Should it be necessary, I am prepared to confirm this statement in court under oath.

July 12, 1938

Shanghai.

(Signed): F.I. Didenko.

Я, нижеподписавшийся, Федор Иванович ДИДЕНКО, Русский эмигрант, 68 лет от роду, проживающий в доме № 324 Рю Тенант де ла Тур, и в настоящее время служащий ночным сторожем на Рю Лафайетт, опрошенный Суб Инспектором Шанхайской Муниципальной Полиции Прокофьевым по делу о сборах пожертвований для О-ва Помощи Престарелым Эмигрантам, 12 Июля 1938 года показал :

В течении нескольких лет я состоял членом О-ва Помощи Престарелым Эмигрантам, председателем котораго был все время В.О. Попов. 30 Мая 1937 года во время общего собрания членов Общества в помещении СОРО, 8 Авеню Дюбайж, Попов по разным причинам отказался от председательства, после чего я был выбран его заместителем.

На третий или четвертый день после этого собрания я по просьбе секретаря Общества, Г-на Н.Н. Степанова, подписал 15 экземпляров обращений к публике на английском языке для сбора пожертвований в пользу Общества. Приблизительно в то же время я потребовал от Попова сдачи дел и печатей Общества. Он ответил , что сделает это недели через полторы- две. По истечении этого срока я вновь обратился к нему по этому вопросу, но он отослал меня к Степанову, у котораго по его словам находились печати. Степанов же ответил мне, что он не вернет мне печатей до тех пор , пока он не вернет своих денег , затраченных им на заказ печатей и на другие надобности по организации Общества. Тогда я заявил Степанову, что никаких бумаг больше подписывать не буду. Вскоре после этого в газетах появилось уведомление о том, что деятельность Общества на Французской Концессии запрещена. После этого я никаких вообще дел с Обществом не имел и считаю, что оно с тех пор не существует.

Числа 3 или 4 Июля, 1938 года Степанов пришел ко мне на службу и попросил меня подписать какой то написанный им документ. При этом он об'яснил, что он недавно производил сборы пожертвований в пользу Общества и собрал 127 долларов и 50 центов. Деньги он якобы передал ПОПОВУ, что и просил меня подтвердить своей подписью. На мой вопрос,

за чьей подписью был документ, по которому он производил эти сборы, Степанов ответил, что документ был за моей подписью. Когда же я заявил, что никаких документов не подписывал с тех пор как Общество было запрещено, Степанов ответил, что это не так важно и что все дело было пустячное. Я наотрез отказался подписывать какие либо документы и вообще принимать какое либо участие в делах Степанова. С тех пор я его не видел. Числа десятого Мая, 1938, когда я лежал в Генеральном Госпитале, ко мне пришел племянник Попова Яков Яков-левич (фамилии его я не знаю), живущий вместе с Поповым. Он сказал мне, что недавно Степанов был у Попова и очень просил последнего выручить его из неприятности, в которую он попал из за сборов недавно. Осмотрев документ на английском языке от 6 Мая, 1938 года за № 75 представленный мне Суб Инспектором Прокофьевым сего числа, я настоящим заявляю, что подпись на нем сделана не моей рукой и что я никогда этого документа не видел ранее. Точно так же заявляю, что никогда никаких денег от Степанова я не получал.

Настоящее показание прочитано мне Суб Инспектором Прокофьевым и найдено мною правильным. В случае необходимости я готов подтвердить его в суде под присягой.

12 Июля, 1938 года

Гор. Манхай.

С.Ю. М. ...

No. 436.

THE COUNCIL OF THE UNITED RUSSIAN PUBLIC ORGANIZATION
OF SHANGHAI,
8, Ave. Dubail.

Shanghai, 4th June 1937.

The Society for the Relief
of Very Aged Russian Emigrants.

Dear Sirs,

The Council of the United Russian Public Organization of Shanghai (SORO) is in receipt of a communication from the Director of the French Police, dated 24th May a.c. No. 1661/A, that the activities of your Society were already in 1933, on January 13th, prohibited by the French authorities and of this prohibition they inserted an official advertisement in newspapers on 2nd February, 1935.

The said step of the French authorities in regard to your Society, was caused, as writes the Director of the Police, by actions of an suspicious character committed by your collectors and some of the Members, principally in Canton.

Nevertheless, your Society was continuing its activities, spreading same also on the French Concession, which you had no right to do as long as the mentioned prohibition was remaining in force.

In order to continue your activities in the French Concession, you should have, immediately upon receipt of the notice regarding prohibition, file a request for the cancellation of this prohibition, submitting to the French authorities all the facts proving your innocence.

If you have had and have facts and reasons to refute the accusations brought up against you and to prove your righteousness, - you had to continuously repeat your requests before the French authorities in order to obtain satisfaction of your legal demand. Until the receipt of a new authorization, however, you should not have and shall not continue your work in the French Concession.

In the letter of the Police Director there is a mention of a number of other suspicious acts committed by you recently, i.e. in 1937.

On the ground of data which evidently are in the possession of the Police, the Police Director is most definitely instructing me on request of the authorities to dissolve immediately your Society in my capacity of the President of the SORO.

2 As you are aware, the SORO is the only Russian Emigrants Organization duly authorized and accredited to serve and represent the legal needs of the Russian Emigrants residing in Shanghai.

This legal statute of our Organization is obliging us not only to enjoy the right granted us but also to strictly perform our obligations in respect to the laws of China and toward authorities having a relation to our Organization.

The organization of SORO is located and is conducting its activities in the French Concession and therefore, all orders of the French authorities are binding for us as well as are binding the orders of the authorities of that country /China/ under jurisdiction of whose laws we are.

At the same time, I, as the President of a Public Organization, having not in my possession those data, which could allow me to declare your Society as dissolved without violating the Statute of SORO, - am herewith proposing you to stop your activities in the French Concession and to consider yourselves as deprived of the possibility to take part in the life and affairs of SORO, until the time that the Organization of SORO is located in the French Concession, or until the revocation of prohibition imposed upon you by the French authorities previously.

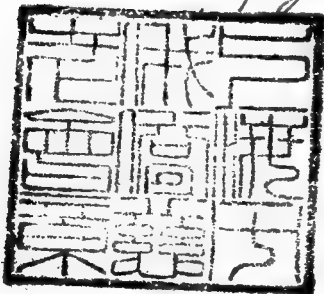
All certificates and Testimonials which until the present moment were issued to you by the Organization of SORO for activities in the French Concession are to be considered annulled.

Please accept, Dear Sirs, my assurance of my sincere esteem and devotion to you.

President of the SORO
(-) Gleboff

Ob usgovestnik bafans:

Tyrogodannos Tyrobaue  *Gleboff*



No. _____

Shanghai Municipal Council.



POLICE FORCE.
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

P. O. BOX NO-199.

June 28, 1938.

Brig.-General E.B. Macnaghten, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Director,
Yee Tsong Tobacco Company, Limited,
175, Soochow Road,
S H A N G H A I.

Dear General:

Thank you for your note of June 28th,
in regard to Stepanoff. This man has previously
come to the notice of the Police, collecting money
in an unauthorised manner. I will have his pres-
ent activities looked into and see what can be done
to deal with him.

This is the second time you have helped
us in this type of case, for which I thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Commissioner of Police.

IW/.

NR 442

June 29, 38.

Brig.-General E.B. Macnaghten, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Director,
Yee Tsoong Tobacco Company, Ltd.,
175, Soochow Road.

Dear General,

Thank you for your note of June 28th,
in regard to Stepanoff. This man has previously
come to the notice of the Police, collecting money
in an unauthorised manner. I will have his present
activities looked into and see what can be done to
deal with him.

First time for
D. M. | This is the second time you have helped
us in this type of case, for which I thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Sd: K. M. Bourne.

Commissioner of Police.



175, SOOCHOW ROAD.
SHANGHAI.

June 28th 1938

Major K.M. Bourne, M.C.,
Commissioner of Police,
Police Headquarters,
185 Foochow Road,
SHANGHAI

Dear Bourne,

A gentleman called Mr. N. Stepanoff
came to me 2 or 3 days ago with a Subscription List.
I, for some reason, suspected him of being a fraud so
I wrote to Mr. Metzler, Russian Emigrants' Committee.

Document A is a copy of a letter
attached to the Subscription
List.

- " B Card presented by Mr. Stepanoff
giving the address.
- " C Copy of my letter to Mr. Metzler
- " D Copy of Mr. Metzler's reply

Mr. Stepanoff would appear to be a fraud
and I am reporting this incident for any action you may
think advisable.

Yours sincerely,

Enclos.

C

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SHANGHAI, 23rd June 1938.

Ch. E. Metzler, Esq.,
Russian Emigrants' Committee,
1 Lane, 118 Moulmein Road,
Shanghai.

Dear Sir,

On several occasions we have assisted the "Society for the Relief of very aged Emigrants" by cash donations handed to Mr. N. Stepanoff who, according to his visiting card, is the Secretary of the Committee.

This gentleman informs me that Mr. T. Dedenko is the Chairman of the Society and Mr. M. Petroff is the Vice Chairman.

This morning Mr. Stepanoff called for a further donation to assist the "Aged and Disabled Emigrants", who had lost all they had in the conflict at Wayside.

We receive a very large number of applications for charitable donations and in view of the local conditions which have curtailed our Charity Fund, we have to take very great care in the distribution of those funds.

Would you, therefore, very kindly give me some information as to this Society's activities so that when the next application is made, I may have some reliable information for the consideration of the Committee, who administer the Fund.

Yours faithfully,
YEE TSOONG TOBACCO DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED

(SIGNED) *E. B. Macnaghten.*

DIRECTOR.

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RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS' COMMITTEE

SHANGHAI, 28th June 1938.

General E. Macnaghten,
Director,
Yee Tsoong Tobacco Distributors Ltd.
175 Soochow Road, Shanghai.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your letter of 23rd June 1938 I beg to inform you that there is only one Society for very aged emigrants under the name "Patronage for the relief to the very aged Russian emigrants in Shanghai", duly registered at this Committee. The Chairman is Mr. Domojiroff and my Committee is supporting them, from time to time. This Society is not allowed to solicit any aid from outside.

Mr. Stepanoff has no connections at all with this Society and is collecting money for his own use.

The malicious activities of Mr. Stepanoff are very well known to the Shanghai Municipal Police and I think the Police should stop same by all possible means.

Yours faithfully,

(SIGNED) CH. METZLER)

CHAIRMAN.